

Second, I will introduce legislation to extend and expand the Indian Reservation Roads Program, which is so important to Indian communities in New Mexico. This program provides direct funding to tribes in 33 states to improve transportation. My bill increase the annual funding for tribal roads from \$275 million to \$500 million, reestablishes a separate \$15 million per-year program to repair bridges on tribal lands, and dedicates \$20 million per year in new Federal funding for tribal transit projects.

Third, I will introduce legislation to establish a new University Technology Center at New Mexico State University in collaboration with the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University. The focus of the new center is on nondestructive methods to measure the wear and tear on highway bridges.

Fourth, I will reintroduce a bill to designate US Highway 54 between El Paso, Texas, and Wichita, Kansas, as the SPIRIT High Priority Corridor on the national highway system. In New Mexico, the route runs for about 350 miles from the southern border with Texas, through Alamogordo, Carrizozo, Vaughn, Santa Rosa, and Tucumcari, to Nara Visa. This designation will help focus attention on the need to upgrade this heavily traveled highway to four lanes. The bill was cosponsored last year by Senators ROBERTS, INHOFE, HUTCHISON, and DOMENICI.

Fifth, I will introduce legislation to reauthorize the special funding that goes directly to San Juan and McKinley Counties in New Mexico, as well as neighboring counties in Arizona and Utah, to help maintain roads used by school buses on the Navajo Reservation. In TEA-21, Congress provided \$1.5 million per year for 6 years to counties in the three States to help ensure that buses carrying children to school have passable roads. It is not acceptable when Indian children can't attend school simply because their school buses couldn't get through on the many poor quality roads in the region.

Sixth, I will reintroduce my bill to authorize Los Alamos National Laboratory to continue its advanced computer-modeling project to develop the National Transportation Modeling and Analysis Program, or NATMAP. The program will provide a valuable tool for analyzing the national transportation system, including cars, trucks, railroads, barges and airplanes, as a single integrated system. The program will also be valuable in assessing the impacts of disruptions to any portion of the transportation network.

I hope each of these bills will gain bipartisan support and will be included in the comprehensive 6-year reauthorization bill. I will have more to say about each of these six initiatives over the next few weeks as the bills are introduced.

Finally, one of the other important parts of the transportation bill is the authorization of funding for individual high-priority highway and transit

projects around the State. In 1998, I helped secure funding for a number of highway projects throughout New Mexico, including upgrades of highways 84/285 and 70, Unser Boulevard, Paseo del Norte, and the uptown and northwest areas of Albuquerque and Rio Rancho.

This year, some of the projects for which I intend to pursue funding include reconstruction of the access road from Interstate 40 to the Double Eagle II airport in anticipation of the relocation of Eclipse Aviation; construction of a new Paseo del Volcán on the northwest side of Albuquerque and Rio Rancho; reconstruction of the I-40 and Coors Boulevard interchange; construction of a new interchange on Interstate 25 to serve Mesa del Sol; and expansion of the I-25 interchange in Belen.

In the rural areas of New Mexico, I will be seeking Federal funding to complete four-lane upgrades of the Ports-to-Plains corridor along US 64/87 between Clayton and Raton, US 54 from Tularosa to Nara Visa, US 62/180 south of Carlsbad, and US 666 south of Shiprock.

For transit projects, one of my priorities will be an authorization for the design and construction of a high-capacity transit corridor in Albuquerque. This effort was first initiated in 1998. The project has now been through the required preliminary studies and is ready to move forward with preliminary design for either a light-rail system or a system with dedicated bus lanes. In addition, I will be seeking an authorization to continue efforts to preserve the Santa Fe El Dorado rail line as a possible commuter route.

In addition to funding for my priority highway and transit projects, a large number of additional projects will be funded directly by the State and local governments with formula grants funds provided under the 6-year transportation bill.

I know reauthorizing the transportation bill is a massive effort. A number of committees here in the Senate will be involved, including the Finance Committee where I am a member. I look forward to working this year with the Environment and Public Works Committee, including Chairman INHOFE and Senator JEFFORDS, on the highway programs in the bill, and with the Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee, including Chairman SHELBY and Senator SARBANES, on the transit portion of this important legislation. I do believe that reauthorization of the transportation bill is critical to the citizens of New Mexico and to the Nation. I hope we can complete a bipartisan bill this year in a timely manner.

PROMOTING DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN IRAN

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, included in the omnibus bill is a provision I authored permitting the use of fiscal year 2003 foreign operations funds to support the advancement of

democracy and human rights in Iran. While I believe that Iran rightly belongs in the Axis of Evil, I also recognize that the people of Iran, those residing in the country and abroad, are growing increasingly weary of the repression imposed upon them by Iran's ruling clerics.

We all know how these clerics came to power, and today, many Americans appreciate the demographic changes underway in that country. To put it simply, with each new birth in Iran, the popularity and control of the regime is further undermined. An estimated 50 percent of Iran's 70 million people were born after our compatriots were held hostage for 444 days. The call of the clerics is falling on increasingly deaf ears, and Iran's youth are already in the streets demanding good governance, accountability, and economic opportunity from Iranian hardliners.

The ingredients for political and economic change in Iran already exist. Our task must be to consider how best to support these efforts. I propose worthwhile endeavors include funding for Iranian newscasts, publication of Iranian political journals, development of websites, and dissemination of information on democracy, the concepts of nonviolent struggle, and secularism.

As I am familiar with democracy programs that have been implemented in other parts of the world, including the former Yugoslavia and Burma, I am well aware of the challenges posed in funding democracy and human rights programs in Iran. But I am confident that it can be done.

I will have more to say on this topic at a later date, but I appreciate the attention of my colleagues on this important issue.

Let me close by thanking Jennifer Chartrand for her five years of service with the Foreign Operations Subcommittee. Jennifer left earlier this year to work with the Defense Subcommittee, and she will be missed. In addition to managing her accounts in a professional and effective manner, Jennifer deserves special recognition for helping the people of Burma in their struggle for democracy and human rights. As this is a cause close to my heart, I am particularly grateful for all her hard work on this issue. I wish Jennifer all the best in her new position, and I look forward to continue to work with her in her new capacity.

A CENTENNIAL SALUTE TO THE SALT RIVER PROJECT

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, as this Congress deals with the large and complex challenges facing our Nation in the 21st century, we do well to remember local histories and the great public endeavors of our people that have helped make America great.

In my home State of Arizona, we remember and celebrate the vision and commitment that, 100 years ago on February 7, launched an organization that helped a great metropolis bloom in the desert.

A century ago, the Salt River Project (SRP) was formed by settlers to sustain central Arizona's small farming communities through times of drought, flooding, and heat. Through the SRP, with the assistance of the Federal Government, many people worked to build the great Theodore Roosevelt Dam which sits on the Salt River, east of the Phoenix metropolitan area.

The dam, completed a year before statehood, stood as the largest masonry dam of its day. It provided the lifegiving water and flood protection that enabled downstream communities to flourish and grow.

People of all walks and faiths, including Native Americans and immigrant Italian stonemasons, helped build the roads, pack the mules, drive the wagons, and carve the great blocks that created Roosevelt Dam. In 1911, Teddy Roosevelt, then years past his final term, came to Arizona to dedicate the dam and the great labors that made the project a reality.

The water supplies assured by the structure nurtured a growing economy, and hydroelectric facilities were developed to power our growth. The dam crated Roosevelt Lake, a major conservation and recreational resource enjoyed by so many of our residents and visitors.

Over the years through the SFP's efforts, other water storage facilities were constructed helping to provide the water, power, flood control, conservation and recreation that sustains our communities and one of the Nation's most vibrant economies.

Today, the SRP serves some 780,000 electric customers and supplies water to more than 1.5 million people. It is the Nation's oldest multi-purpose reclamation project, the largest water supplier in central Arizona and a major public power utility, helping to sustain a quality of life and economic vigor of which Arizonans are richly proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I offer this tribute to the Salt River Project and the people it represents. Arizona looks forward to a future for the SRP that is as successful as its past and to ensuring that our great public works continue to serve the best interests of our great people in the hundred years to come.

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 June 17, 2001 in Springfield, MO. An African-American man, Maurice Wilson, was stabbed three times by one of six men whom witnesses described as skinheads and

white supremacists. Police said the stabbing appeared to be racially motivated. The victim had walked into a diner with his girlfriend, who is white, and another interracial couple. A fight ensued between the victim and the group of alleged white supremacists when one of the group pulled out a knife and stabbed the victim.

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.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROE V. WADE

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I rise today to speak on the 30th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision.

Thirty years ago, in 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court held that women have a constitutional right to an abortion. That decision, Roe v. Wade, was carefully crafted to be both balanced and responsible while holding the rights of women in America paramount in reproductive decisions. Roe v. Wade held that women have a constitutional right to an abortion, but after viability, States can ban abortions as long as they allow exceptions when a woman's life or health is endangered. Since then, while the Court has consistently ruled in favor of this right, there is no doubt that this right is being eroded.

And today, the thirtieth anniversary of that landmark decision, I especially want to thank those who are continuing to provide safe and legal reproductive health care to the women of our community. In the face of crippling challenges, especially violence and threats of violence, these health care workers have held fast in their commitment to provide the quality health care that all women deserve.

Like most Americans, I believe that we must work to reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies through education and family planning. But I also believe that our Constitution protects a woman's right to privacy, and that this constitutional right encompasses the decision of whether to terminate a pregnancy.

Unfortunately, we are seeing a concerted effort by those who seek to overturn this right to stack our courts with ideological conservatives who seek not only to weaken the right to make personal decisions about one's own body, but also to make exercising that right a criminal offense. As a Senator, I take my responsibility to advise and consent on nominees to the Federal judiciary extremely seriously. While I recognize the privilege of the President to select his nominees, I believe it is critical that we conduct a comprehensive evaluation of each nominee, since, unlike members of the President's cabinet and other executive branch ap-

pointees, Federal judges receive lifetime appointments, and are expected to interpret our Nation's laws in a fair and balanced manner.

I am especially concerned that President Bush has chosen to renominate several extremists on this issue, especially Priscilla Owen. Her record demonstrates that, as a member of the strongly conservative Texas Supreme Court, she was an activist judge, interpreting the law to fit her ideological ends. Indeed, while President Bush's current White House Counsel was serving on the Texas Supreme Court, then-Justice Alberto Gonzales called one of her rulings "an unconscionable act of judicial activism."

Many of my colleagues and I spend much of our time, and must continue to do so, defending the actual right to have an abortion. But in my mind, the easiest way to reduce the number of abortions is to prevent unwanted pregnancies in the first place. And I simply don't understand why so many anti-choice members don't understand that connection.

Studies show that the use of family planning reduces the probability of a woman having an abortion by 85 percent. Unfortunately, the U.S. still has 3 million unintended pregnancies each year in the United States, half of which end in abortion. This is why I support the Equity in Prescription Contraceptive Coverage Act, authored by Senator OLYMPIA SNOWE of Maine, and why I will be cosponsoring that bill when she reintroduces it.

The women in the Senate are in a unique position to fight against the erosion of Roe. I stand with them today to honor those who came before me in fighting for this right. Together we will continue to make sure that the women of America have the right to privacy, and the fundamental freedom of choice in our lives.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE RETIREMENT OF MAJOR GENERAL GORDON E. STUMP, ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE MICHIGAN NATIONAL GUARD

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, January 31 of this year will be the last day that MG Gordon E. Stump serves as the head of the Michigan National Guard. This will bring to a close the tenure of the longest serving adjutant general in the Nation. For 12 years, GEN Stump has embodied the pride, professionalism and dedication that is the hallmark of the citizen soldiers of the National Guard.

Increasingly, our Nation's military relies on the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve to serve seamlessly alongside of our active duty military. The ability of these citizen soldiers to pick up, leave their families and serve where they are needed is a tribute to them and to the ability of