

Under current law, dealers are required to notify the BATFE of the sale of two or more handguns to the same person within five business days. The House-passed provisions would prohibit the public release of information related to multiple handgun sales. The House language would also prohibit the release of information related to tracing requests on guns used in crimes. Eliminating the public availability of this data would make it more difficult to monitor the activities of reckless gun dealers.

In addition, the House-passed language would prohibit the BATFE from issuing a rule requiring Federal Firearm Licensees to take a physical inventory of their firearms. A physical inventory recently revealed that a Tacoma, WA, gun dealer could not account for the sniper rifle used by the Washington, D.C. area sniper and more than 200 other guns. The House language would have required the immediate destruction of records of approved firearms purchases and transfers generated by the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. The retention of these records has assisted law enforcement officials trying to prevent guns from getting into the hands of criminals and identifying gun trafficking patterns.

The House-passed provisions were never the subject of hearings and are not supported by any major law enforcement organizations. They could shield reckless and negligent gun dealers from public scrutiny and weaken the BATFE's oversight and enforcement authority. They should not be adopted by the Senate.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE 1ST ANNUAL MARCH OF DIMES RADIO BROADCASTERS FOR BABIES EVENT

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, today I recognize the St. Louis radio community for joining together to pioneer the 1st Annual March of Dimes Radio Broadcasters For Babies Event at the Saint Louis Galleria on November 8, 2003. This was the first event of its kind nationwide. Together, Clear Channel Radio, Emmis Broadcasting, Bonneville St. Louis Radio Group, KTRS The Big 550, 1380 THE TEAM, Q95.5 Radio One, Classic 99 and Infinity Radio raised almost \$300,000 to support research and programs to save babies from premature birth, the leading cause of birth defects and infant mortality.

One out of every eight babies in the U.S. is born prematurely, some so tiny they can't even cry. In nearly half of these cases, no one knows why. With their 5 year, \$75 million Prematurity Campaign—no one is working harder than the March of Dimes to find out why babies are born too soon. I commend the St. Louis radio community for their support of the March of Dimes. With their help we will find the causes of premature birth and gain more knowledge to save more babies.●

OREGON HEALTH CARE HERO

• Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to salute a trio of Oregon Health Care Heroes. Three agencies, El Programa Hispano, the Desarrollo Integral de la Familia, and the Oregon Council for Hispanic Advancement, are working together to provide much needed mental health services to Oregon's growing Latino community. Their combined effort is helping clients improve relationships, find a listening ear and access the services they need to live healthier lives.

Funded by a grant from Multnomah County, the agencies work with Latino families and individual clients facing a variety of challenges: from depression and anxiety to post-traumatic stress and domestic abuse. Part of the success of this project is that counselor and client share language and culture. Before these agencies began serving clients, finding a counselor who speaks Spanish or understands Mexican and Latin American cultures was next to impossible.

In a recent profile published by the Portland Oregonian, counselor Marcos T. Sanchez discussed the importance of sharing language and culture with clients.

It makes such a big difference when you come in and the receptionist can speak to you in Spanish. People walking by can say, "Have you been helped?" When you go to the clinic, you're already feeling alienated. But if you don't have to risk as much to get these services, you are much better off.

The project is also successful because it networks within the Latino community and employs nontraditional methods to help clients. Therapists conduct home visits to work with whole families and to better understand the needs of individual clients. This individualized approach to care, combined with culturally sensitive services, will ensure that quality care reaches those who need it most. As the service expands, it will serve as a national model for bringing together the best in community care and mental health services.

Through the vision of the Latino Network and the resources of Multnomah County, these agencies are reaching people in need. They connect with people and care for clients in a unique way that is making a real difference in the lives of Latino Oregonians. I thank El Programa Hispano, the Oregon Council for Hispanic Advancement and the Desarrollo Integral de la Familia for their excellent work. They are heroes to the people they serve and to all Oregonians.●

TRIBUTE TO C. BOOTH WALLENTINE

• Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I give tribute to my dear friend C. Booth Wallentine, who, just days ago, began a very well earned retirement after serving for 41 years in the Farm Bureau. Thirty-one of those years he served as the executive director of the Utah Farm Bureau.

Booth is an institution in my State, and I have to say that when agriculture

issues come up, my first question often is, "What's Booth's take on this?" Even on rare occasions when we have disagreed on an issue, I found it valuable to understand his perspective. As far as I am concerned, nobody knows agriculture in Utah like Booth Wallentine, and I dare say that no state Farm Bureau director knows Congress and the legislative process like Booth Wallentine, either.

This combination of expertise in the substance and in the process of agriculture policy-making has helped to set Booth apart as a highly effective advocate on behalf of Utah agriculture interests. It has also helped him to provide service in various other ways. He served as vice chairman of the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce as well as chairman of the board of Utah State University. Remarkably, both institutions awarded him their respective distinguished service awards. He also served as the president of the Utah Council on Economic Education and chaired the Utah Farm Service Agency Committee on Risk Management. Somehow he found the time to help establish the National Mormon Pioneer Trail Foundation and was asked to chair the Department of the Interior's Historic Trail Commission.

But wait a minute, there's more. Booth Wallentine was Utah State University's very first inductee in their Agriculture Hall of Fame, he was named the Future Farmers of America Farm Leader of the Year, a Friend of the Cattlemen, a Friend of Utah Wool Growers, and he earned the Utah State Extension Leadership Award. Booth was also officially recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency for his environmental leadership in helping farmers to improve Utah's water quality.

I should point out that this is not a complete list, but it serves to make the point that Booth Wallentine is a great American. He has helped Utah in so many ways.

I know that I will miss him dearly, but I gain some comfort knowing that while he goes into retirement, we continue to benefit from the wisdom he shared with us and the legacy he has left. I thank my friend, Booth Wallentine for serving so long and so well. I pray that the Lord will bless him and his sweet wife, Raeda, in their retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO PHILIP SHANNON

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise in tribute to Philip J. Shannon, of Norwich, CT, passed away on Tuesday, November 11, 2003, at the age of 85. Philip was a dedicated public servant, a loyal Democrat, and above all, a good friend.

He was a Norwich native who would dedicate much of his life to serving the people of his hometown. He graduated from St. Patrick's School and the Norwich Free Academy. Like so many in

Norwich and across the State of Connecticut, he would go on to work in the manufacturing industry as a machinist at Pratt and Whitney and as a partner at the Norwich Machine and Tool Company.

During his decades of work as a public official in Norwich, Philip was never one to stay silent on any issue that he felt was important to the citizens of that city. That approach won him many allies, and it certainly earned him his share of critics. But everyone admired the passion and the dedication that Philip Shannon brought to his many years of public service.

He helped spearhead a series of important local projects, including the Norwich Golf Course and development along route 82. He also had the foresight to successfully campaign against selling the city's public utilities department to a private corporation. The decision to keep the department ultimately made the city more money than it would have received from the sale.

Those are only a few of Philip Shannon's many accomplishments. In the words of Bill Stanley, a former State Senator, "he did more for Norwich than anyone will ever know."

His work on behalf of the Democratic Party in Norwich was so tireless that he became known as "Mr. Democrat." He served as Democratic town chairman for 20 years and represented Connecticut's 19th District on the Democratic State Central Committee. In his role as a party leader, he recruited numerous candidates who went on to hold local and State offices.

Philip was as good to his friends as he was to the Democratic Party. He was a longtime friend of my father, and I will never forget how he supported me when I first ran for the Senate back in 1980.

Norwich is a better place today because of the efforts of Philip Shannon. He will be greatly missed, both by the people he served and by everyone who knew and loved him.

I offer my most heartfelt sympathies to Philip's wife Cresencia, his four children, six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and his entire family.●

JOSEPH W. MCCrackEN

● Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge the passing of Joseph W. McCracken on October 26, 2003.

For over 4 decades, Mr. McCracken represented the forest products industry in Oregon and other western States, as the Executive Vice President of Western Forest Industries Association. Mr. McCracken represented a sector of the industry that I hold in particularly high esteem—a sector comprised of small, family-owned sawmills and plywood plants.

These are the mills that traditionally depended on our Federal forest lands for their supply of timber. These are

the mills that are located in small rural communities where they provide the backbone of the local economy.

During his years of service to his industry, Joe McCracken was a fixture in his town and served as an advisor and mentor to many of our predecessors in this body. Warren Magnusen, Scoop Jackson, Mark Hatfield, Bob Packwood, Frank Church, Jim McClure, Jim Melcher, and other stalwarts of our western Senate delegation looked to Joe for counsel and advice on public land issues affecting his constituents.

He represented them with a passion and commitment that was exemplary. Joe McCracken was a visionary and was responsible for creating and influencing countless pieces of legislation and regulations that benefitted his industry, the people that work in it and the communities that depend on it.

The Small Business Set Aside Program, as just one example, assured small, family-owned mills a fair share of the Federal timber sold from our national forests and lands manager by the Bureau of Land Management.

Joe McCracken was a pioneer in crafting the policies and regulations affecting the Oregon and California Railroad lands in western Oregon, today known as the "O & C" lands. He did this both as a professional staff person for the Department of the Interior and as an advocate for his trade association.

Under Joe McCracken's representation, the small, family-owned mills throughout the west prospered. Many of them are under second and even third generation management. Unfortunately, many of them no longer exist.

After Joe's retirement in the early 90s, a sea change in Federal policies regulating the management of public forests unfolded to the point that very little timber is being provided from these forest lands and many of the mills have closed.

Unfortunately, these were the mills Mr. McCracken fought so hard to preserve. Those that have survived owe their existence largely to Joe McCracken.

Joe was born in Butte, MT in 1925. He served his country as a lieutenant in the United States Marines. He attended Princeton University where he earned a masters degree in political science.

He had a distinguished career with the Department of Interior, and specifically, the Bureau of Land Management prior to taking the leadership position with the Western Forest Industries Association.

Joe McCracken was a unique individual who left a profound imprint on the growth and evolution of public forest policy and the industry that is so closely dependent on public forest lands. His contributions to this body in assisting us in the thoughtful debate and deliberation of these important matters are worthy of our formal recognition.

I extend my heartfelt sympathy to Joe McCracken's wife Janet and his two children, Jon and Tamsen.●

THE LIFE OF BRIAN HOWELL

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to a friend who lived his life in the service of his community and his family.

Brian Howell was a committed journalist, and his activities reached far beyond reporting and editing. He wrote eloquently about the importance of honest government, and voiced outrage when news broke of political corruption in Wisconsin's State legislature.

Brian worked his way to become editor of Madison Magazine, a position he took after serving as features editor of the Wisconsin State Journal.

Brian Howell's dedication extended to the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he taught a course on public campaigns and publicity. Shortly after the attacks of September 11, Brian worked closely with students to publish an issue of their student magazine that captured the circumstances, changes, and emotions surrounding the attacks. Always eager to engage young writers, Brian knew the power of good journalism.

Brian's voice remained strong, even into his last days. He wrote openly about his disease, lung cancer. In calling for increased research about the disease, Howell knew that despite lung cancer's stigma and common association with tobacco, its sufferers deserved the same scientific dedication that other patients received.

Right before he passed, Brian received by telephone the UW-Madison journalism school's Director's Award for Distinguished Service to Journalism. He greatly deserved this high honor.

My wife Mary and I will truly miss Brian. He was a friend of ours for many years and my wife had the distinct pleasure of working with him at Madison Magazine. His friendship is something we will always treasure and hold close to our hearts.

Brian's death is a great loss to the Madison community and to Wisconsin as a whole. I am saddened by his passing and join in honoring his achievements. I know that he will live on through all that he accomplished, and through everything that he taught those of us fortunate enough to call him a friend.●

TRIBUTE TO PAUL WALLACE-BRODEUR

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to Paul Wallace-Brodeur, an outstanding Vermonter and a national leader in the area of health care reform. As he prepares to retire from his position as director of the Office of Vermont Health Access in Waterbury, VT, it is important to reflect on how much one person can accomplish in serving others.

Paul has been on the forefront of providing individuals with greater access to the health care delivery system. As the State Medicaid director, which is