

by enacting safe storage legislation, such as the Children's Firearm Access Prevention Act. These are two commonsense steps we can take to reduce gun violence.

I had the pleasure of meeting Lakeshia Gallman in October and I commended her on her hard work and dedication to preventing gun violence in her community. I am sure that I speak for many of my Senate colleagues in congratulating her on a job well done.

I ask unanimous consent that Lakeshia's Detroit Free Press column be printed in the RECORD.

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

YOUTH PROGRAM IS BEST REVENGE AGAINST
RISING TIDE OF GUN DEATHS
TEEN WHO LOST COUSIN CHANNELS HER ANGER
INTO EDUCATION PLAN
(By Lakeshia Gallman)

Sometimes I sit back and wonder why innocent people have to die. It is a shame that violence has taken over our world.

The shooting death of 16-year-old Detroit high-school student Mario Smith over the weekend has personal meaning for me as someone who graduated from Martin Luther King High School this year. Mario was an honor student at King, an athlete I knew to be a great all-around person.

His senseless death was the latest sad reminder of how gun violence is destroying our communities. But I already knew this—because my 17-year-old cousin was shot to death four years ago.

My cousin and his friends were shot several times with automatic weapons. It was a Sunday afternoon; my aunt told him to take her car and go to the cleaners. Instead, he went to pick up some friends who at the time were selling drugs. They stopped at a stop sign, and two men sprayed the car with their AK47s.

I think my cousin was at the wrong place at the wrong time and hanging out with the wrong crowd. He had a lot of dreams that he wanted to accomplish in life, but that was all taken away from him in couple of seconds.

He always talked about going to the NFL or being a rapper. He was like a brother. I miss his jokes and his smile.

He taught me how to play basketball and said he would come to my first high school game. He was killed a month before my first game.

After my cousin was murdered, I wanted revenge on whoever killed him. Later, I realized that violence was not the way to retaliate. I joined the Detroit Neighborhood Services Organization's Youth Initiatives Project—a youth-driven program that campaigns against drug violence. The program is my revenge.

I get my revenge by educating the community on gun safety and passing out gun locks to help prevent accidents with guns in the home. In this way, I could repay my cousin by saving other lives.

The Youth Initiatives Project has benefited me a lot. The program has made me come out of my shell and talk to other youths about my story.

When I first started the program, I was very shy and quiet. With the help of Frank McGhee, our program director, I learned that if you speak your mind, people will take a minute to listen.

The Youth Initiatives Project has been fighting the fight for a long time. We have

been campaigning and having rallies on this issue for about 3½ years. Gun violence can be stopped. We just have to keep on pushing and educating the public.

Among other achievements, the project distributed 2,000 gun locks to the community over the summer. This proved that the community wanted to practice gun safety—and that made me proud.

The next issue I want to deal with is illegal gun trafficking. I wonder where people are getting these high-powered machine guns. People are selling guns from their houses, trunks of their cars and other places that are illegal. Anyone can buy a gun from these places, even minors.

This illegal gun trafficking is very dangerous because children can get their hands on guns whenever they want.

My message to the community is: If we had done something before these murders, this could have been prevented. We were not concerned until our babies were murdered. There need to be more block clubs, town hall meetings and community activities to keep children out of trouble. This is what I leave with you. Let's start saving our future before it fades away.

To Mario Smith's family, I would like to say that I will keep praying for you and to never give up, because justice will be served.

To my cousin: Rest in peace, Ronald Ellis, I will see you again one day. Just keep on waiting for me, and we will play that one-on-one game I owe you.

My heart goes out to the families and siblings who lost somebody they love. God bless you, and never give up.

TRAVEL TO PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC FOR THE NATO SUMMIT

Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, as many of my colleagues may be aware, I am a strong advocate of NATO enlargement to include Europe's new democracies. As such, I was thrilled to have the opportunity to join President George W. Bush at the NATO Summit in Prague last November, at which time invitations for NATO membership were extended to Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

I remain deeply grateful to the President for inviting me to join him as a member of the Congressional delegation to the NATO Summit, along with my colleague Senator BILL FRIST, and Congressman TOM LANTOS, Congressman ELTON GALLEGLY and Congressman DOUG BEREUTER. I appreciate that the President has recognized my lifelong passion for the inclusion of the former Captive Nations as members of the NATO Alliance, and I was proud to be in the room on November 21, 2002, when NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson officially announced the decision to invite seven countries to become part of the Alliance.

As Lord Robertson articulated on that historic day, the decision to include these new members will serve to strengthen the Alliance as it prepares to confront new challenges to global security. After working with the NATO aspirant countries on comprehensive domestic reforms in preparation for membership in the Alliance, the Secretary General concluded that, "We can therefore say with complete con-

fidence that this round of enlargement will maintain and increase NATO's strength, cohesion and vitality." I share his belief that these countries will make significant contributions to the NATO Alliance. As Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Richard Myers have also expressed, these countries will bring niche capabilities, as well as energy, freshness and enthusiasm, to the Alliance.

I sincerely believe that although the newly invited countries still have work to do on their Membership Action Plans, their reforms will be swifter and more complete as they are brought into the Alliance, rather than left out.

Upon our arrival in the Czech Republic, we were informed that we were invited to attend a mock NATO Summit for students, which included young people representing all 19 members of the NATO Alliance, as well as the aspirant countries. The students were scheduled to discuss and debate the same issues that were to be addressed by the Heads of States of the NATO member countries. President Bush was the keynote speaker at their event. I was pleased that Senator FRIST and I had the opportunity to introduce ourselves to the various delegations, and I enjoyed the chance to share common experiences with the delegations from Macedonia, Croatia, Italy and Lithuania on an informal basis.

President Bush gave a most inspiring speech to the young people, emphasizing the fact that NATO has become more than simply a military organization, and is in fact an organization composed of people who share common values. With these common ties, he remarked, those countries who have been traditional adversaries will no longer go to war against one another. Instead, as Article V of the NATO Charter clearly states, an attack against one is an attack on all.

Following the President's speech, we proceeded to a reception with Secretary of State Colin Powell. I was delighted to talk with him about NATO's changing role, as well as the many perspectives from which he has viewed the formulation of our foreign policy. On Wednesday evening, November 20, 2002, members of the U.S. delegation attended a dinner with other delegates to the NATO Summit, which was hosted by the Aspen Institute. I was glad to have the opportunity to visit with President Mesić of Croatia, President Trajkovski of Macedonia, Prime Minister Dzurinda of the Slovak Republic, President Kucan of Slovenia, and our host, President Vaclav Havel of the Czech Republic.

Thursday, November 21, 2002 was a thrilling day for me. I have longed to be present when Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia were invited into NATO, and I was pleased to be there to see President Havel begin the program and to hear Lord Robertson formally invite

seven countries to join the Alliance. With no objections, the consensus among the Allies was to invite these young democracies into NATO. Each delegation, through its President or Prime Minister, made a statement to express their support for these seven countries and their strategic importance to the NATO organization. It was inspiring to hear country give their enthusiastic endorsement, and it gave me some comfort that they would help to move the approval of these countries' membership through their respective legislatures.

On Thursday afternoon, I joined other members of the U.S. delegation at a small luncheon in honor of the NATO aspirant countries. I enjoyed the chance to visit with President Vaira Vike-Freiberga of Latvia, Foreign Minister Mircea Geoana of Romania, President Moisiu of Albania, Prime Minister Drnovsek of Slovenia, as well as Prime Minister Simeon Saxe-Coburg-Gotha of Bulgaria. It was a wonderful celebration of the invitations extended to Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia, as well as the ongoing reforms in Macedonia, Albania and Croatia to prepare for membership in the Alliance.

Later that day, my wife Janet and I were happy to talk further with Czech President Vaclav Havel at a dinner held in his honor at the Prague Castle. Following dinner, at 1:30 a.m. Prague time, I placed a call to Cleveland to talk with individuals with ties to NATO aspirant countries who were gathered at the Lithuanian Hall of Our Lady of Perpetual Help at a rally to celebrate the historic events that had taken place that day. I enjoyed the opportunity to share with them the experiences that I was having in Prague. It was truly a capstone to an unbelievable day that I will never forget.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate as we begin to discuss the merits of NATO enlargement during this session of Congress.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, as an appropriator, I come to the floor today to express my opposition to the omnibus appropriations bill.

The \$385 billion omnibus appropriations bill cuts almost \$10 billion from what the Senate Appropriations Committee approved last year.

On top of these draconian cuts, the bill before us includes a 2.9 percent across-the-board cut, to non-military programs, and will affect critical programs such as homeland security, education, and job training.

This bill is a major mistake and represents a short-sided approach to solving our Nation's problems.

What is happening is an administration's effort to starve domestic programs in order to save dollars for a \$674 billion tax cut. If this effort is successful, we will see interest rates rise, the deficit balloon, and a 10-year cumulative deficit of \$2 to 3 trillion.

Americans don't know it yet but soon will learn that this bill makes a house

of cards out of homeland security, which loses \$1 billion which was already requested, authorized, and appropriated.

How many Americans know that this bill will likely cut 1,175 FBI agents, 490 food safety engineers, and 1,600 customs inspectors who are vital if we are to protect our homeland from contraband and those that would do us harm.

How many Americans know that the Head Start cut of \$107 million could prevent 2700 youngsters from a Head Start experience, or leave 224,000 needy individuals without the meals provided by WIC, or 230,000 veterans without medical services.

To make matters worse, this bill is being offered at a time when our Nation continues to face significant challenges in protecting homeland security, increasing school achievement, and strengthening our work force.

Essentially what this bill does is cut the money from a number of critical projects so this body can pass a tax cut of \$674 billion, which will lead to a \$2 trillion deficit over the next 10 years.

Every day this body is faced with tough choices. But in my decade in the Senate, I believe this bill represents one of the worst pieces of legislation to pass this Senate.

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, pursuant to the requirements of paragraph 2 of Senate rule XXVI, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the rules of the Committee on Foreign Relations for the 108th Congress adopted by the committee on January 28, 2003.

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

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

(Adopted January 28, 2003)

RULE 1: JURISDICTION

(a) SUBSTANTIVE.—In accordance with Senate Rule XXV.1(j), the jurisdiction of the Committee shall extend to all proposed legislation, messages, petitions, memorials, and other matters relating to the following subjects:

1. Acquisition of land and buildings for embassies and legations in foreign countries.
2. Boundaries of the United States.
3. Diplomatic service.
4. Foreign economic, military, technical, and humanitarian assistance.
5. Foreign loans.
6. International activities of the American National Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross.
7. International aspects of nuclear energy, including nuclear transfer policy.
8. International conferences and congresses.
9. International law as it relates to foreign policy.
10. International Monetary Fund and other international organizations established primarily for international monetary purposes (except that, at the request of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, any proposed legislation relating to

such subjects reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations shall be referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs).

11. Intervention abroad and declaration of war.

12. Measures to foster commercial intercourse with foreign nations and to safeguard American business interests abroad.

13. National security and international aspects of trusteeships of the United States.

14. Ocean and international environmental and scientific affairs as they related to foreign policy.

15. Protection of United States citizens abroad and expiration.

16. Relations of the United States with foreign nations generally.

17. Treaties and executive agreements, except reciprocal trade agreements.

18. United Nations and its affiliated organizations.

19. World Bank group, the regional development banks, and other international organizations established primarily for development assistance purposes.

The Committee is also mandated by Senate Rule XXV.1(j) to study and review, on a comprehensive basis, matters relating to the national security policy, foreign policy, and international economic policy as it relates to foreign policy of the United States, and matters relating to food, hunger, and nutrition in foreign countries, and report thereon from time to time.

(b) OVERSIGHT.—The Committee also has a responsibility under Senate Rule XXVI.8, which provides that “. . . each standing Committee . . . shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, and execution of those laws or parts of laws, the subject matter of which is within the jurisdiction of the Committee.”

(c) “ADVICE AND CONSENT” CLAUSES.—The Committee has a special responsibility to assist the Senate in its constitutional function of providing “advice and consent” to all treaties entered into by the United States and all nominations to the principal executive branch positions in the field of foreign policy and diplomacy.

RULE 2: SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) CREATION.—Unless otherwise authorized by law or Senate resolution, subcommittees shall be created by majority vote of the Committee and shall deal with such legislation and oversight of programs and policies as the Committee directs. Legislative measures or other matters may be referred to a subcommittee for consideration in the discretion of the Chairman or by vote of a majority of the Committee. If the principal subject matter of a measure or matter to be referred falls within the jurisdiction of more than one subcommittee, the Chairman or the Committee may refer the matter to two or more subcommittees for joint consideration.

(b) ASSIGNMENTS.—Assignments of members to subcommittees shall be made in an equitable fashion. No member of the Committee may receive assignment to a second subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members of the Committee have chosen assignments to one subcommittee, and no member shall receive assignments to a third subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members have chosen assignments to two subcommittees.

No member of the Committee may serve on more than four subcommittees at any one time.

The Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee shall be ex officio members, without vote, of each subcommittee.