

to enable them to make telephone calls to family and friends in the United States without cost to the member.

(b) MONTHLY AMOUNT.—The value of the benefit provided by subsection (a) shall not exceed \$40 per month per person.

(c) END OF PROGRAM.—The program established by subsection (a) shall terminate on the date that is 60 days after the date on which the Secretary determines that Operation Iraqi Freedom has ended.

(d) FUNDING.—

(1) USE OF EXISTING RESOURCES.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall maximize the use of existing Department of Defense telecommunications programs and capabilities, private support organizations, private entities offering free or reduced-cost services, and programs to enhance morale and welfare.

(2) USE OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—In addition to resources described in paragraph (1) and notwithstanding any limitation on the expenditure or obligation of appropriated amounts, the Secretary may use available funds appropriated to or for the use of the Department of Defense that are not otherwise obligated or expended to carry out this section.

SEC. 5. DEPLOYMENT OF ADDITIONAL TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT.

The Secretary of Defense shall work with telecommunications providers to facilitate the deployment of additional telephones for use in calling the United States under this Act as quickly as practicable, consistent with the availability of resources. Consistent with the timely provision of telecommunications benefits under this Act, the Secretary should carry out this section and section 4 in a manner that allows for competition in the provision of such benefits.

SEC. 6. NO COMPROMISE OF MILITARY MISSION.

The Secretary of Defense shall not take any action under this Act that would compromise the military objectives or mission of the Department of Defense.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ALEXANDER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period for morning business.

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

PETER ARNETT, TRAITOR

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I rise today to comment on and express outrage over the recent actions and words of journalist Peter Arnett. In fact, I hesitate to even use the term "journalist" when referring to Mr. Arnett.

This word implies a certain degree of objectivity and balance which this man knows absolutely nothing about. "Traitor" is a better word to describe Mr. Arnett.

This past weekend Mr. Arnett appeared on state-controlled Iraqi television. With a uniformed Iraqi anchor translating, Mr. Arnett told the Iraqi people that the American war plan had failed due to their continued resistance and that coalition forces were in the process of drafting new battle plans. To quote Arnett:

Clearly, the American war plans misjudged the determination of the Iraqi forces.

Saddam Hussein couldn't have written his script any better.

Clearly, Mr. Arnett has no idea what he is talking about. This is the same man who reported in 1991 during the first gulf war that the United States had blown up a baby milk factory. Military sources confirmed that this target was in fact hit. The fact that Mr. Arnett conveniently left out was that this "baby milk factory" was actually a biological weapons plant.

I will never understand how and why Mr. Arnett always thinks he knows so much more than our military and intelligence officials. I am pretty sure our military leaders on the ground and civilian leaders in the Pentagon, who are briefed around the clock, know a whole heck of a lot more than Mr. Arnett. I hope Mr. Arnett is not getting his info from the same source who told him that U.S. forces used the nerve agent—sarin gas—against villagers in Laos during the Vietnam war.

This story, reported in 1998 by Mr. Arnett, could hold no water and CNN rightly fired Arnett for his reckless words and actions. Now, 6 years after that bogus claim, Peter Arnett has once again found himself in search of employment.

Both National Geographic Explorer and NBC News have fired Arnett for this latest stunt by Peter Arnett on Iraqi-controlled television. I am trying to figure out why these entities even hired him in the first place with his pathetic track record of recent years.

We all firmly believe in the first amendment which protects the freedom of religion, speech, press and assembly. However, no U.S. citizen should be allowed to provide aid, and comfort, through false information, to the enemy during wartime.

Of course the media doesn't mention the word "treason" like many of us have over Mr. Arnett's comments. That would be an indictment of one of their own and a pock on their profession.

Mr. Arnett can apologize all he likes for being a "useful idiot" for Saddam and his barbaric regime, but that's not enough for me and it's certainly not enough for our soldiers and many Americans. I think Mr. Arnett should be met at the border and arrested should he come back to America.

I dare Mr. Arnett to take a good look at our soldiers in uniform and tell them they have failed in this mission and objective.

These men and women embody everything that is great about America and freedom. They come from small towns and big cities. They come from families both rich and poor. They come from all religions and races. The one thing all these Americans have in common is their love for America and freedom.

They love this Nation and cherish its very idea so much that they are willing to sacrifice their own lives to ensure that we can live in a country free of government tyranny like that under which those in Iraq have lived.

This war has lasted almost 13 days. Thus far we have lost about 50 U.S. soldiers and have 17 missing in action.

As I stand here today, our coalition forces are surrounding Baghdad and will bring about the demise of Saddam Hussein and his regime. We will help liberate the Iraqi people from deceit and hopelessness and tyranny.

Mr. Arnett, you need to retire or think about a second career as a fiction writer. I understand you are looking for work and that the socialist, anti-American Daily Mirror in the United Kingdom has already picked you up.

To those news organizations that have already picked up Mr. Arnett, and others that may hire him, I have two things to say: One, you have every right to hire him. Two, we have every right to call your news organization a joke and a sympathizer to traitors.

I believe it is about time we made an example of Mr. Arnett's lies and deceit and let the media know we are watching.

While we are giving the media top access and protection in this war, we must demand that they not hang out to dry our soldiers and Americans. If they do so, there should be consequences.

Some believe freedom of speech is an absolute right and that journalists have the right to say and report anything they want. I, and many others, do not believe this. I do not believe journalists should be allowed to lie and opine and aid our enemies in the time of a war.

There is a line journalists are not meant to cross, and Mr. Arnett crossed this line many years ago, and he continues to do so. It is time we held this man accountable for his actions.

THE SMALL BUSINESS DROUGHT RELIEF ACT OF 2003

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I rise to thank my colleagues for voting last night in favor of the Small Business Drought Relief Act of 2003. Time is of the essence for disaster victims; small businesses across the country have been waiting 8 months for Congress to take action and force the Small Business Administration to comply with the law and open its disaster loan program to them. They are frustrated, and understandably so.

You see, the SBA doesn't treat all drought victims the same. The agency only helps those small businesses whose income is tied to farming and

agriculture. However, farmers and ranchers are not the only small business owners whose livelihoods are at risk when drought hits their communities. The impact can be just as devastating to the owners of rafting businesses, marinas, and bait and tackle shops. Sadly, these small businesses cannot get help through the SBA's disaster loan program because of something taxpayers hate about government bureaucracy.

The SBA denies these businesses access to disaster loans because its lawyers say drought is not a sudden event and therefore it is not a disaster by definition. However, contrary to the agency's position that drought is not a disaster, as of July 16, 2002, the day this legislation was introduced last year, the SBA had in effect drought disaster declarations in 36 States. That number has grown to 48, demonstrating that problem has gotten worse and even more small businesses are in need.

As I have said time and again, the SBA has the authority to help all small businesses hurt by drought in declared disaster areas, but the agency won't do it. For years the agency has been applying the law unfairly, helping some and not others, and it is out of compliance with the law. The Small Business Drought Relief Act of 2003 would force SBA to comply with existing law, restoring fairness to an unfair system, and get help to small business drought victims that need it.

I thank the Chair of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, Senator SNOWE, for all her work to ensure passage of this bill, as well as our many colleagues who are cosponsors—Senators BOND, LANDRIEU, EDWARDS, JOHNSON, BINGAMAN, LEVIN, BAUCUS, DASCHLE, HOLLINGS, LIEBERMAN, WARNER, CRAPO, HARKIN, REID, ALLEN, BENNETT, and ENZI.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that letters of support from Governors who advocated prompt passage of this legislation last year be printed in the RECORD.

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

SOUTHERN GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION,
Washington, DC, August 19, 2002.

Hon. JOHN KERRY,
U.S. Senate, Russell Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR KERRY: We are deeply concerned that small businesses in states experiencing drought are being devastated by drought conditions that are expected to continue through the end of the summer. We urge you to support legislation that would allow small businesses to protect themselves against the detrimental effects of drought.

Much like other natural disasters, the effects of drought on local economies can be crippling. Farmers and farm-related businesses can turn in times of drought to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. However, non-farm small businesses have nowhere to go, not even the Small Business Administration (SBA), because their disaster loans are not made available for damage due to drought.

To remedy this omission, Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass.) introduced the Small Business

Drought Relief Act (S. 2734) on July 16, 2002, to make SBA disaster loans available to those small businesses debilitated by prolonged drought conditions. This bill was passed by the Senate Small Business Committee just eight days later. Also, the companion legislation (H.R. 5197) was introduced by Rep. Jim DeMint (R-S.C.) on July 24, 2002. Both bills are gaining bipartisan support, and we hope you will cosponsor this important legislation and push for its rapid enactment in the 107th Congress.

As 11 southern states are presently experiencing moderate to exceptional drought conditions this summer, we cannot afford to wait to act. We urge you to cosponsor the Small Business Drought Relief Act and push for its consideration as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Gov. Don Siegelman of Alabama; Gov. Mike Huckabee of Arkansas; Gov. Roy E. Barnes of Georgia; Gov. Paul E. Patton of Kentucky; Gov. M.J. "Mike" Foster, Jr. of Louisiana; Gov. Parris N. Glendening of Maryland; Gov. Ronnie Musgrove of Mississippi; Gov. Bob Holden of Missouri; Gov. Michael F. Easley of North Carolina; Gov. Frank Keating of Oklahoma; Gov. Jim Hodges of South Carolina; Gov. Don Sundquist of Tennessee; Gov. Rick Perry of Texas; Gov. Mark Warner of Virginia; Gov. Bob Wise of West Virginia.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,
Carson City, NV, July 23, 2002.

Hon. JOHN F. KERRY,
Chairman, Committee on Small Business, Russell Building, Washington, DC.

Hon. CHRISTOPHER BOND,
Ranking Member, Committee on Small Business, Russell Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATORS KERRY AND BOND: Much of Nevada and the Nation have been experiencing extreme drought over the past several years. In Nevada we have seen the effects of this situation through catastrophic range and forest fires, insect infestations and loss of crops and livestock.

Prolonged drought causes a drastic reduction in stream and river flow levels. This can cause the level of lakes to drop so significantly that existing docks and boat ramps cannot provide access to boats. In the case of range and forest fires we have seen small innkeepers and hunting and fishing related businesses that have their entire season wiped out in a matter of a few hours.

Unfortunately for some small businesses, drought assistance is available only for agriculture related small businesses, such as feed and seed stores. For businesses that are based on tourism around lakes and rivers, there is currently no drought assistance available.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) is not currently authorized to help these businesses because a drought is not a sudden occurrence. Nonetheless, a drought is an ongoing natural disaster that causes great damage to these small businesses.

I would like to lend my support to S. 2734. The Small Business Drought Relief Act. This bill would amend the guidelines and authorize the SBA to offer assistance to small businesses affected by prolonged drought. With passage of this bill, Governors would be allowed to ask SBA for an administrative declarations of economic injury because of drought. The low interest loans SBA can offer these businesses would allow many of them to weather the drought and remain economically viable for future operation.

Sincerely,

KENNY C. GUINN,
Governor.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,
Raleigh, NC, July 18, 2002.

Hon. JOHN EDWARDS,
U.S. Senate, Dirksen Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR EDWARDS: I am writing to thank you for your support for legislation introduced in the Senate to add drought as a condition for which small businesses may apply for Small Business Administration Economic Injury Disaster Loans.

The Small Business Drought Relief Act (S. 2734) will correct the current situation facing our small businesses in North Carolina. SBA disaster assistance is not available despite a historic drought that is impacting not just our agriculture sector, but causing real business and revenue losses, which threaten some firms with job layoffs or even bankruptcy.

These businesses need help, and access to low-interest SBA loans can offer a lifeline to allow paying bills and making payrolls until business returns to normal.

I urge you to push for rapid action on this important enhancement to SBA's ability to help our people through this time of trouble.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

MICHAEL F. EASLEY.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,
Columbia, SC, July 9, 2002.

Hon. JOHN KERRY,
U.S. Senate, Russell Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR KERRY: The State of South Carolina is in its fifth year of drought status, the worst in over fifty years. Some parts of the state are in extreme drought status and the rest is in severe drought status.

Ninety-nine percent of our streams are flowing at less than 10% of their average flow for this time of year. 60% of those same streams are running at lowest flow on record for this date. The levels of South Carolina's lakes have dropped anywhere from five feet to twenty feet. Some lakes have experienced a drop in water level so significant that tourist and recreational use has diminished.

State and national climatologists are not hopeful that we will receive any significant rainfall in the near future. To end our current drought, we would need an extended period of average to above average rainfall.

Droughts, particularly prolonged ones such as we are experiencing now, have extensive economic effects. For farmers who experience the economic effects of such a drought, assistance is available through the USDA. For small businesses, assistance is available only for agriculture related small businesses, i.e. feed and seed stores. For businesses that are based on tourism around Lakes and Rivers, there is currently no assistance available.

We have reports of lake and river tourism dependent businesses experiencing 17% to 80% declines in revenue. The average decline in revenue is probably near 50% across the board.

My staff has contacted Small Business Administration and they are not authorized to offer assistance to these businesses because a drought is not defined as a sudden occurrence. Nonetheless, a drought is an ongoing natural disaster that is causing great economic damage to these small business owners.

I am requesting that you assist us in this situation by proposing that the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee take action to at least temporarily amend the SBA authorizing language and allow them to offer assistance to small businesses affected by prolonged drought. This would allow Governors to ask SBA for an administrative declaration of economic injury because of

drought. The low interest loans SBA can offer these businesses would allow many of them to weather the drought and remain in business for the long run.

My staff has also been in contact with Senator Hollings' legislative staff. I hope together, we can find an expedient solution to the plight of these small business owners. Short of finding a way to control the weather, this may be our only option to help their dire situation.

Sincerely,

JIM HODGES.

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 September 19, 2001, in Fairhaven, MA. An Arab-American family was harassed and assaulted by its neighbors. After being followed and harassed with racial slurs, the Arab-American father was attacked with a baseball bat. He was treated at a local emergency room. The tires on his son's car were slashed, as well.

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.

DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, the passing of Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan is a loss for all of us. Pat Moynihan committed his remarkable life to his country: serving four Presidents, representing our Nation as Ambassador to India and the United Nations, and representing the State of New York as a Senator. His deep intellect and unyielding candor will be missed.

As a junior colleague, I was struck by Senator Moynihan's generosity with his time and graciousness of spirit. I had the privilege of sitting next to Senator Moynihan on the trip to Rhode Island for the funeral of our colleague the late Senator John Chafee. As we traveled, I was out of my depth listening to him discuss different styles of architecture in between offering endearing stories about our departed colleague.

Of all his gifts, Pat Moynihan's ability to recognize great issues before they were commonly observed was his greatest. In public policy, he had an ability to appreciate and make sense of the larger picture rarely found in a politician. From the plight of broken families and inner cities, to the collapse of the Soviet Union, to the danger of eth-

nic conflict in the Balkans, to Social Security reform, Moynihan was prophetic. In one of his last public speeches, at last year's Harvard Commencement, Moynihan again offered words that carry far more weight today than when he delivered them less than a year ago:

Certainly we must not let ourselves be seen as rushing about the world looking for arguments. There are now American armed forces in some 40 countries overseas. Some would say too many. Nor should we let ourselves be seen as ignoring allies, disillusioning friends, thinking only of ourselves in the most narrow terms. That is not how we survived the 20th century. Nor will it serve in the 21st.

Senator Moynihan's wit and wisdom will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers go to Liz Moynihan and the Moynihan family.

THE NORWICH CADETS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, recognition and congratulations are in order for a school and a group of young men known throughout Vermont for their honor, integrity and prowess on the hockey rink.

Norwich University, the nation's oldest private military college, sits in the picturesque town of Northfield, VT. It is a quaint college town, and it is a unique college, hosting a mix of military cadets and more traditional college students.

The cadets, as their hockey team is known, have a reputation for being an NCAA Division III hockey powerhouse. It is cold in Northfield this time of year, but a few weeks ago, Norwich University's Kreitzberg Arena was warmed by a sellout crowd gathered to watch the Cadets capture their second NCAA Division III hockey title in just four years.

The Cadets staged a come-from-behind 2-1 win over Oswego State on March 22 to capture the title. After trailing 1-0 going into the third period, Norwich was looking at the possibility of being shut out, something that has not happened to the program in 278 consecutive games, a streak dating back to the 1993-94 season. Junior defenseman Lou DiMasi, a Vermont native, was quoted by the Burlington Free Press on the team's third period comeback, saying: "There was no way we were going to let it get away." Junior defenseman Aaron Lee scored his thirteenth goal of the season in the third period to tie the game, and senior team captain Toza Crnilovic notched the game-winning goal for the championship.

Norwich coach Mike McShane has built a remarkable record over the past 8 years, winning the Eastern College Athletic Conference East crown five times and reaching five "Frozen Fours." Since Mike McShane began coaching the Cadets, the team has had five 20-win seasons accompanied by a long list of individual accomplishments for members of Cadet teams, including

national players of the year and a long list of All-Americans.

Following the game, Coach McShane attributed part of the team's success to the great support the Cadets have from Norwich and Northfield. "We've got great support here and that helps a lot. You saw the president and the chairman of the board of trustees out there at center ice in the celebration. You don't see that at many schools."

Norwich finished the season with an impressive record of 27-3, and many of the Cadets' stars will be returning next year. And, as surely as the sugar rises each year in the maples, Vermonters next year will be closely following the Cadets through another great season. Until next winter, the Cadets have earned the right to bask in the glow of knowing they have accomplished another successful season, bought with hard work, skill and determination.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

OREGON HEALTH CARE HEROES

● Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to salute Chance and Dr. Lisa Steffey as Oregon Health Care Heroes for their willingness to save a deeply needed community health clinic in Oregon's beautiful, rural community of La Pine.

A hero is someone who sets aside personal interest to act for another person's welfare. That is exactly what Dr. Steffey and her husband did when they purchased the La Pine Community Clinic in Oregon. Because of their courage and willingness to take a risk, an Oregon community with extremely limited health care resources will continue to have a local place to access health services.

Despite warnings that purchasing the community health clinic was a significant financial risk, the couple forged ahead. Without their intervention, the clinic would have closed, leaving many residents without access to local care. Many of the clinic's clients are Medicaid and Medicare patients who would have been forced to travel significant distances to find care had the Steffeyes not seen an opportunity.

La Pine has been named a Health Professional Shortage Area where many residents do not have access to care. Low Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements make it difficult for doctors to serve the area, which is home to many who rely on these programs for health coverage. But with the Steffeyes' dedication, and the temporary help of Central Oregon Independent Health Services, the clinic is now financially stable and serving the families of La Pine.

Many rural Oregon residents face incredible hurdles accessing health services. The shortage of providers willing to serve in rural areas, combined with the particularly low federal reimbursement levels offered to rural providers, has caused an exodus of health services