

serves over 20 million people each month at an annual cost of over \$20 billion.

Ms. O'Neil came to the Department in November of 1968 following graduation from Ohio Wesleyan University where she majored in politics and government. She has spent the majority of her career in various positions with the Food Stamp Program, with the exception of 6 years that were spent in the agency's Office of Regional Operations. She has been USDA's main career official on all Food Stamp Program legislation since 1984.

Since that time, Ms. O'Neil has worked closely with Congress to help craft food stamp legislation. She has been available at any hour of the day, including weekends, to provide her wise counsel. She spent countless hours and worked tirelessly to assist the Agriculture Committee on significant legislation, including numerous farm bills and the landmark 1996 welfare reform bill.

In 2003, due to Ms. O'Neil's exemplary work, she received a Presidential Rank Award recognizing her contribution to the reauthorization of the Food Stamp Program.

In her years of Federal service, Ms. O'Neil has overseen many program improvements, including replacing paper coupons with electronic benefit delivery, setting records for payment accuracy and extending many policy options to States to improve customer service.

Ms. O'Neil is a native of New Jersey and now resides in Alexandria, VA.

I commend Ms. Bonny O'Neil for her many years of devoted service to the U.S. Department of Agriculture and for the outstanding work she has done throughout her distinguished career. I congratulate her on the occasion of her retirement and extend my best wishes for much happiness and satisfaction in the years ahead.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I too wish to pay tribute to the accomplishments of Ms. Bonny O'Neil and thank her for her many years of dedicated service to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Ms. O'Neil has done an outstanding job as the senior career official responsible for the Food Stamp Program. Under her very capable leadership, this important program has been greatly improved.

During the writing of the recent farm bill, which took almost 2 years, Ms. O'Neil worked tirelessly with the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry on the food stamp provisions. Her expertise in this area was invaluable and she was always available to provide assistance. After the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 was signed into law, Ms. O'Neil worked to implement the food stamp provisions, including the large number of State flexibility sections contained in the act.

The quality of her efforts in this regard are obvious. In the one year since the farm bill passed, numerous States

have already implemented or are planning to implement important State options that significantly improve the Food Stamp Program. As a result, we are helping working Americans in their efforts to enter and stay in the workforce and also making sure that, for millions of American children, the shadow of hunger does not loom so darkly.

In always remembering that her job is to serve Americans and to better their lives, rather than just to run a program from an office in Washington, Bonny meets and surpasses the highest ideals of civil service.

I thank Ms. O'Neil for her years of service to our Nation and wish her well in her retirement.

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I join my colleagues in expressing my sincere gratitude to Ms. Bonny O'Neil for her more than 34 years of devoted service to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. As a result of her wealth of knowledge and experience with the Food Stamp Program, Ms. O'Neil was an invaluable resource to the entire Congress as we crafted the 1996 welfare reform law. Ms. O'Neil's wisdom, patience and good humor were vitally important during the long process of writing that landmark legislation.

I thank Ms. O'Neil for her many accomplishments and for her honorable service to this Nation.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I, too, join my colleagues today to recognize and honor Ms. Bonny O'Neil upon her retirement from the Federal Government. Ms. O'Neil is a true public servant—in all the best sense of that phrase—diligent, hardworking, attentive to details, willing to dig in and truly analyze both sides of each issue, smart, totally honest, a woman of her word, and driven by a desire to do the right thing.

She is to be commended for serving her Nation and the U.S. Department of Agriculture so well. She also served the Congress well by providing us with clear and informative answers, and guiding us through complex issues. I know that she worked closely with my nutrition counsel Ed Barron for many years—both when he was at USDA and while he worked for me starting in 1987. On many occasions late at night during a conference, I would hear someone say: "Let's call Bonny to get the facts."

Bonny spent all but six of those years in various positions with the Food Stamp Program, where she currently serves as the Associate Deputy Administrator.

Ms. O'Neil provided valuable assistance during our work on nutrition programs, food stamp amendments and several farm bills. Anyone who has ever worked on a farm bill knows that it is an extremely complicated task that requires many long hours, including nights and weekends. Her attention to detail and willingness to be available at any time, day or night, was most appreciated.

I thank Ms. Bonny O'Neil for her distinguished service to the public good and wish her well in her retirement.

#### LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, 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 in Farwest, WA. On September 13, 2001, a Sikh cab driver was stopped by a 21-year-old man who had hailed his cab. Once inside the cab, the passenger verbally accosted the driver accusing him of being a terrorist and that he had no right to be in the United States. The passenger subsequently grabbed the driver around the neck and choked him. Before the driver was able to escape, the passenger punched the victim in the face, grabbed fistfuls of his beard and ripped off parts of his turban. The attacker was eventually arrested by a passing police officer.

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.

#### ORBIT ACT

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I would like to take a few moments to comment on H.R. 2312, which allows for some technical corrections to the ORBIT Act. Although neither Inmarsat nor Intelsat has yet conducted the IPO that the ORBIT Act provided for, there is one satellite provider that has fulfilled the ORBIT Act's original requirements in this regard. That provider is New Skies Satellites, which has separated itself from its one-time parent Intelsat, conducted an IPO under challenging market conditions, substantially diluted its shareholder base through both the IPO and a recent 10 percent share buyback, and become a full-fledged competitor in the satellite marketplace. New Skies has asked that we consider some amendments to the Act that would acknowledge and recognize its fully independent status. While the abbreviated process leading to the Senate's consideration of this bill today did not permit full consideration of those issues, I am open to listening to the arguments for such changes in the context of a broader review of the ORBIT Act and its implementation.

#### WEST VIRGINIA DAY

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, today I rise to commemorate the 140th

birthday of the great state of West Virginia. On this day, 140 years ago, West Virginia was born amidst the conflict of the Civil War.

In 1964, I came to West Virginia as a VISTA worker and spent 2 years in Emmons, WV. Those 2 years changed my life and I decided to make West Virginia my home and make public service my career. Over the years, I have been proud to serve the people of West Virginia in various ways and I feel very privileged to represent West Virginia in the Senate.

On West Virginia Day, I believe it is important to reflect upon our State's rich history, scenic beauty, and its hard-working, independent citizens who truly reflect our State motto, "Mountaineers are always free."

West Virginia's scenic trails and winding roads make it one of the most beautiful States in the country. Its mountainous terrain, breathtaking scenery, and raging rivers make it perfect for hiking, skiing, biking, rafting, fishing, and many other types of recreation. West Virginia truly earns the travel slogan of "wild and wonderful".

The small farms and growing industry of early West Virginia set it apart from the tobacco plantations of eastern Virginia. West Virginia was made up of large numbers of immigrants, along with rugged, hard-working frontiersmen and women who instilled the values and ideals that West Virginians embody today.

The people of West Virginia remain its greatest asset. West Virginians are industrious, ambitious, open, and fun-loving people. They value equality and liberty which tie them to both our State and country. West Virginians have been some of the most innovative and creative people, contributing to all aspects of American society and culture.

After his family left Virginia and slavery for a better life west of the mountains, Booker T. Washington was raised in Malden, Kanawha County, WV, and began working in the salt furnaces at the age of seven. He rose up from slavery and illiteracy to become the foremost educator and leader of Black Americans at the turn of the 20th century. He founded the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, later known as Tuskegee University.

Jerry West was born in Cabin Creek, WV and attended West Virginia University, where he was a two time All-American basketball player. After he won a gold medal for the U.S. Olympic team in Rome in 1960, he moved west to play for the Los Angeles Lakers. He excelled throughout his playing career, gaining a reputation as a perfectionist. He helped the Lakers win a championship in 1972 and was elected to the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1979.

Col. Ruby Bradley, a native of Spencer, WV, was the most highly decorated woman ever to serve in the U.S. military. Her military record included 34 medals and citations of bravery, including two Legion of Merit medals,

two Bronze stars, two Presidential Emblems, the World War II victory medal, and the U.N. Service Medal. She was also the recipient of the Florence Nightingale Medal, the highest distinction given by the International Red Cross. She was a U.S. Army nurse and a POW for 2 years in the Philippines and was known as the "Angel in Fatigues" at Santo Tomas Internment Camp in Manila. On July 2, 2002, she was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery.

These three West Virginians are but a few representative examples of the kind of talented, successful, courageous, and independent people in our great State. Their lives and stories provide a glimpse into the spirit of our State, and they also serve as an inspiration to the young people in our State today.

The natural beauty, the people of West Virginia, and their countless achievements should be celebrated and remembered every day. As we strive to promote our economic growth, I hope we will also be mindful of our responsibilities to preserve what makes our state so special, the values and character of its people.

I hope all Americans have the opportunity to experience some of West Virginia's beautiful vistas and to meet the wonderful people I have come to know and love throughout my service to West Virginia.

I am proud to represent my home State of West Virginia and am honored to be able to recognize the 140th anniversary of the Mountain State.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### COMMENDING THE SERVICE OF DANIEL P. BURNHAM

• Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, today I would like to take a moment to recognize the dedication and professionalism of Daniel P. Burnham, chairman and chief executive officer of Raytheon Co. in Lexington, MA. On July 1, 2003, Dan will step down from his position after 5 years at the helm at the company.

Dan worked tirelessly to make Raytheon the hallmark company it is today. He came to the company from Allied Signal, bringing his long history in the defense industry. He introduced a management tool known as Six Sigma to improve Raytheon's efficiency. Six Sigma is a testament to Dan's ingenuity, allowing the company to decrease waste, and at the same time, increase productivity. Dan's unwavering commitment to excellence is clearly demonstrated in his ability to streamline the company while preserving its quality.

Dan improved customer relations while presiding over a transformation and realignment of Raytheon. Under Dan's leadership, the company made valuable acquisitions that increased its capabilities. He concentrated on cus-

tommer-focused initiatives and disciplines to ensure that Raytheon provided our men and women in uniform some of the most important defense systems ever developed—many of which were demonstrated recently in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

One example of this is the PATRIOT Missile, manufactured by the Raytheon Co. The PATRIOT Missile protected our troops and allies in the Middle East from the threat of Iraqi missiles that our military believed had the potential to carry deadly chemical or biological weapons. The PATRIOT Missile is a valuable tool in our arsenal to assure swift victory in Iraq and save countless lives.

Under Dan's leadership, Raytheon won a U.S. Navy contract to develop and produce the next generation of naval vessels. The DD(X) destroyer, with its cutting edge technology, will ensure that the United States maintains its tactical and technological superiority on the high seas.

Admiral Vern Clark, the Chief of Naval Operations, described the DD(X) destroyer as "the future of the surface force in the United States Navy." The DD(X) will truly be the ship of the 21st century. The Raytheon Co., in no small part, is responsible for providing the United States Navy with this unparalleled vessel.

The Tomahawk Cruise Missile, produced by Raytheon and first used in Operation Desert Storm in 1991 has become the premier weapon in the U.S. military's conventional arsenal. Launched from the air, or from the sea, Tomahawk has evolved with the Navy's needs and proved invaluable in Operation Desert Fox, 1998, and was once again the weapon of choice for "shock and awe" in Operation Iraqi Freedom this year. Under Dan Burnham, Raytheon has provided the U.S. Navy with an unequalled precision strike capability offering long-range strike capability against heavily defended targets.

Although Dan will continue to hold the position of nonexecutive chairman for some time, his leadership at the helm of a company he made strong will be dearly missed. I believe the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and especially, brave men and women of our Armed Services have benefited from Dan Burnham's keen sense of right and relentless pursuit of excellence.

We wish him, his wife, Meg, and his family every success in this new and exciting chapter of his life. We bid him "Fair winds and following seas." •

##### SALUTE TO CHARLESTON'S PHILIP SIMMONS ON HIS 91ST BIRTHDAY

• Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, my hometown of Charleston, SC, maintains a special relationship with history. Rather than keeping history in books and museums for occasional viewing, the Charleston community