

ADF is strongly supportive of the Bush Administration and your Congressional leadership in highlighting the clear linkages between development and trade. The economic growth supported by free trade and open markets creates new jobs and increased income for many people. From our direct/experience working in Serbia, ADF sees a wonderful potential in further advancing such linkages. NTR for Serbia & Montenegro will promote its economic and social development and enhance the prospects for strengthening democracy. Perhaps most importantly, NTR for Serbia & Montenegro is in our nation's direct national interests. Open markets and increased investment will result not only in benefiting the people of Serbia & Montenegro but also U.S. investment, trade and other important strategic interests.

Thank you for championing S. 671. ADF looks forward to quick passage of the bill by the U.S. Senate.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL MILLER,
President.

HEAD START PROGRAM

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, today I rise to express my opposition to any proposed changes to Head Start that would dismantle the program. I understand the Bush administration is attempting to turn the Head Start program into a State block grant. A block grant is an amount of money that the Federal Government gives to the States for a specific purpose. Head Start is a well-respected program with a record of success. It is a comprehensive program that helps disadvantaged children and their families with early child development, literacy and health screenings. Why would we want to block grant a successful program? Too often block grants become an excuse to cut funding in the future. I do not believe that Head Start would be improved by changing successful local programs by imposing a new layer of administration at the State level. I am distressed to know that so many children of low-income families will be denied the opportunity to enhance their early childhood development.

The Head Start program was designed to help communities meet the needs of underprivileged preschool children from ages three to five and their families. Head Start provides diverse services in four areas—education, health, parent involvement, and social services. Head Start's educational program is designed to meet the needs of each child, the community served, and its ethnic and cultural characteristics. Every child is involved in a comprehensive health program, which includes immunizations; medical, dental, and mental health; and nutritional services. An essential part of Head Start is the involvement of parents in parent education, program planning, and operating activities. Finally, specific social services are geared to each family.

The West Virginia Head Start Association represents 24 Head Start programs statewide. Each Head Start program is unique in providing services to their families to meet the specific

needs in the community. In 2000–01, West Virginia Head Start programs received funding to enroll 6,700 children. Over the years, I have enjoyed visiting local Head Start programs to visit with children and meet with parents, teachers and staff about the importance of early education.

From the early stages of the Head Start program, Head Start has expanded to include services for pregnant women and children under the age of 3. The goal of Early Head Start is to encourage the development of infants and toddlers by assisting parents in recognizing their value as the caregiver and teacher of their children. Early Head Start provides services in and out of the home to families with young children and expectant families. They include parent education, nutrition services, case management, and support groups for parents. In 2000–01, West Virginia received funding to enroll 325 children in 12 counties.

Early childhood development provides a safe and structured learning environment that prepares our sons and daughters to succeed to the best of their abilities regardless of ethnic background and income level. Since 1965, the program has been providing services to increase a child's readiness for school. Rather than restructuring Head Start, we should build on its success and invest in professional development, quality and expansion to cover more children.

It is disappointing that the Bush Administration is trying to reorganize Head Start rather than investing in its strengths. I hope that the Senate will take a bipartisan approach to the reauthorization of Head Start, and build on the success of Head Start, not dismantle it. When I was Chairman of the Children's Commission years ago, our bipartisan Commission called for full funding of Head Start so that all eligible children were served. Serving all children and continuing to invest in quality should be our goals for the reauthorization of this program so that our children truly enter school ready to learn.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF STROM THURMOND

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, it is a privilege today to pay tribute to the memory of the late Strom Thurmond. Often outspoken, sometimes controversial, but always passionate, Strom was an unparalleled servant of the people. He always put his Nation first, whether in combat on the beaches of Normandy or here in the halls of the Senate.

He made a career of giving back to his country. But he was also a wonderful human being.

Strom often reminded me that Colonel William Barret Travis, who was in command at the Alamo, was from his home county in South Carolina. While Strom himself missed the Alamo by a few years, he demonstrated that he too

embodies the spirit of the Alamo and the sense of duty and commitment to his country that we Texans associate with Colonel Travis.

Strom's journey into the history books began back in the 1920s when he graduated from his beloved Clemson.

He went on to become a teacher and athletic coach, county superintendent of education, town and county attorney, eleventh circuit judge, South Carolina governor, soldier, president of the Reserve Officers Association and finally, a U.S. Senator—a position he held for a remarkable 48 years. For many, that would be five lifetimes of careers. But not Strom. It was just enough to keep him busy for the century he was on this Earth.

Strom lived every day of his life to the fullest.

I'm still amazed that he volunteered to return to active duty military service, though he was way past the age of being drafted. At the age of 41 he flew onto the beaches of Normandy in a glider—staring death in the face, and smiling.

He served in the Pacific and European theaters, earning 18 decorations, medals and awards including the Legion of Merit, the Purple Heart, and the Bronze Star for Valor. He rose to the rank of Major General in the U.S. Army Reserves.

In the Senate Strom focused particular attention on taking care of our men and women in the military.

I served with Strom while he chaired the Armed Services committee and saw the reflection of his time in the service in everything he did. He worked for one purpose—to ensure our country's national defense remained strong. From military health care to quality of life for service members and their families, he knew that to recruit and retain our Nation's finest, we had to treat them well.

The Capitol has not been the same since Strom left last year. The wit and wisdom he collected over a century of living made him one of the most entertaining and enlightening figures in modern politics. There will always be an empty place in the heart of the Senate created by his absence.

The eulogies that came from both sides of the aisle at his memorial service last week were testament to the evolution Strom undertook during his time in the Senate. A career once marked by division ended in unity and with dignity.

He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, colleagues and his country. He began his career in public service as a coach—eight decades later he was a coach and teacher to us all to the very end.

TAIWAN

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I want to take a few moments and talk about Taiwan which has been a reliable friend and ally of the U.S. in Asia for over 50 years. After the terrorist attacks of

September 11, Taiwan quickly announced its support for the allied war against terrorism. Taiwan has since supported the ally efforts to rid Iraq of Saddam Hussein and has offered humanitarian and developmental assistance in rebuilding Iraq for a free Iraqi people. For that, we certainly owe Taiwan a great deal of thanks.

Taiwan has shown itself to be a democratic and freedom embracing republic even while it has undergone threats posed by the People's Republic of China, PRC. As the world focuses on continuing tensions in the Middle East and Africa, the nuclear situation in North Korea, and other threats, we must not ignore the military threat posed by the PRC to our friends in Taiwan. The United States must continue to stand with Taiwan. It is an island of freedom that must be supported.

Aside from simply supporting Taiwan's democratic principles of open elections, human rights, and freedom of assembly and religious beliefs, we must also work to help them with their economy and support of markets and trade. I hope at some point the United States takes a serious and significant step in further strengthening our economic and political ties through a free trade agreement.

Taiwan is the United States' eighth largest trading partner and its largest investment partner. A study produced by the U.S. International Trade Commission showed a net gain of \$3.4 billion for the U.S. economy from a free trade agreement with Taiwan. And this benefits both American workers and businesses as well as those in Taiwan. It seems to be a winning situation for both Taiwan and the United States. With Taiwan's recent accession to the World Trade Organization, now is the right time to seriously consider beginning free trade negotiations with Taiwan.

While some say a free trade agreement may muddle our and Taiwan's relationship with the PRC, I am hopeful such an agreement will benefit all. An agreement could bring about a moderation and softening in the PRC's stance toward Taiwan; treating Taiwan as a partner to help it modernize and foster in itself democratic reforms.

Also, we need to make sure the United States stands behind Taiwan and helps put an end to the PRC's military might and strategic deployments which at times paint a real disturbing and threatening picture for Taiwan. The PRC has accelerated its military buildup and now has over 400 M-class missiles along its southeastern coast. And too many times the PRC has routinely conducted live-fire practicing around the Taiwan Strait.

When the PRC conducts these exercises, it further destabilizes the region. It undermines the right of the people of Taiwan to live without intimidation and threats from the PRC. The PRC even sought to keep Taiwan from seeking assistance of the World Health Organization during the SARS outbreak,

which in fact originated on mainland China and still somewhat remains a problem in Asia.

We cannot stand by when the PRC provokes Taiwan. Even as we deal with pressing issues around the world, we must not lose sight of our vital interests in Taiwan. I strongly supported President Bush's approval in April of 2002 of a sale of Kidd-class destroyers, anti-submarine P-3 "Orion" aircraft, and diesel submarines to Taiwan. In accord with the Taiwan Relations Act, we must continue to speak out in defense of Taiwan, and use our strongest diplomacy to urge the PRC, as a responsible member of the international community, to abandon its rhetoric and provocative actions, and maintain a dialogue with democratic Taiwan.

While we are so heavily engaged with the war on terrorism and involvement in Iraq, we must not lose sight of the democratic and freedom-loving Taiwan. I urge my Senate colleagues to encourage Taiwan to be strong and firm with its democratic principles, and I urge this body to make sure we stand up for and support Taiwan when she needs it the most. A strong Taiwan is not only good for her and her people, but it is a beacon of hope and encouragement for all those who have struggled and fought for democracy and the freeing of the human spirit. I thank the Senate for allowing me to raise these issues, and may God bless Taiwan—the Republic of China—richly.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today with a heavy heart and deep sense of gratitude to honor the life of a brave young man from Batesville, IN. Sgt. Chad L. Keith, 21 years old, was killed in Baghdad on July 7, 2003 when he was ambushed while on patrol with his unit. Chad joined the Army with his entire life before him. He chose to risk everything to fight for the values Americans hold close to our hearts, in a land halfway around the world.

Chad was the eleventh Hoosier soldier to be killed while serving his country in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Today, I join Chad's family, his friends, and the entire Batesville community in mourning his death. While we struggle to bear our sorrow over his death, we can also take pride in the example he set, bravely fighting to make the world a safer place. It is this courage and strength of character that people will remember when they think of Chad, a memory that will burn brightly during these continuing days of conflict and grief.

Chad Keith spoke to his mother over the phone only days before his death, telling her that he was hot and tired, but proud to be making a difference in the world and following in the footsteps of several of his uncles who also served in the military. He was described by teachers and classmates as a polite, respectful young man who always had a smile on his face.

Chad was born in Pennsylvania, then moved to Newark, OH, before his family settled in Batesville. Chad graduated from Batesville High School in 2000 and then joined the Army, where he was assigned to the elite 82nd Airborne. Friends and family say that serving in the military had been a lifelong dream for Chad, who was only days away from being promoted to sergeant, an honor that now has been awarded posthumously. Chad leaves behind his parents, Kimberly and Mark Hitzges, two sisters, Courtney and Nicole, and a brother, Alex.

As I search for words to do justice in honoring Chad Keith's sacrifice, I am reminded of President Lincoln's remarks as he addressed the families of the fallen soldiers in Gettysburg:

We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.

This statement is just as true today as it was nearly 150 years ago, as I am certain that the impact of Chad Keith's actions will live on far longer than any record of these words.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Chad L. Keith in the official record of the United States Senate for his service to this country and for his profound commitment to freedom, democracy and peace. When I think about this just cause in which we are engaged, and the unfortunate pain that comes with the loss of our heroes, I hope that families like Chad's can find comfort in the words of the prophet Isaiah who said, "He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces."

May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn, and may God bless the United States of America.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JAMES HOLLINGSHEAD

• Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and honor an outstanding citizen of Mississippi, Mr. James Hollingshead of Waynesboro, who recently displayed extreme heroism and bravery while in Destin, FL.

On Sunday, June 8, 2003, Mr. Doyle Mosley and his wife Linda were enjoying their annual family vacation in Destin, FL. During the day, the waves had become increasingly high and a red flag had been put out by the lifeguards warning of potentially dangerous waves. The Mosleys' two oldest grandsons ventured into the water with their wake boards. Instantly they were caught in a dangerous and deadly rip-tide.

While one of the boys was able to remain on his board and return safely to shore, the other, Cal Tackett, was in