

President of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, Askar Akaev. President Akaev was in the our country for the opening of the session of the United Nations and also traveled to Utah to discuss the reforms taking place in his country and to talk about the efforts his nation is taking in the war on terrorism. Today we face a global war against terror, a war we cannot win alone. It is in that spirit that we should recognize and support democracies worldwide, particularly those burgeoning democracies for which freedom is a new concept. The Republic of Kyrgyzstan, is just such an example.

A small country of 5 million in Central Asia, the Kyrgyz Republic has been one of the most progressive countries in the region, especially amongst the countries which once made up the former Soviet Union. Plagued by an inflation rate of 88% in the year 1994, Kyrgyzstan under the leadership of President Akaev was successful in carrying out a number of market reforms, which allowed it to lower that inflation rate to 15 percent in just three years.

President, Askar Akaev was first elected in October of 1990 and is internationally recognized for his promotion of science, human rights and democracy world wide. He has received many International Awards, including the Grand Cross of the Order of Liberty and Unity from the Association for Unity Latin America in 1995, the Prize of Javaharlal Neru's International Foundation for Unity also in 1995, the Prize of Crans Montana World Forum in 1996 and the North American-Kyrgyz Business Councils International Leadership Award in 1997. More recently, however, President Akaev's wife and first lady, Mairam Akaeva was awarded an honorary doctorate by Utah Valley State College during a trip to the United States late last month. She is also internationally known for her efforts with women and children, spreading the value of education, which is highly regarded in the Kyrgyz Republic, which enjoys a literacy rate of 98 percent.

I thank President Akaev's commitment to the war on terrorism and express our gratitude for providing a military base for our troops in his country. There are a number of companies with operations in the region that have helped supply our troops with what they need to prevail.

As we continue to search for allies in this critical region of the world, it is important to commend those who are trying and slowly succeeding with new found freedoms and economic opportunities.

BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased that late last night the House of Representatives passed H.R. 2714 with the Leahy-Hatch amendment to reauthorize the highly successful Department of Justice Bulletproof Vest

Partnership Grant Program. I thank the Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Senator HATCH, for joining me on this amendment. This bipartisan legislation now goes to the president for his signature into law.

Our amendment contains the same legislative language as the Campbell-Leahy-Hatch Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 2003, S. 764. The Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act passed the Senate by unanimous consent on July 15, 2003, and has been awaiting consideration by the House of Representatives since then.

This measure marks the third time that I have had the privilege of teaming with my friend and colleague Senator CAMPBELL to work on the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program. We authored the Bulletproof Vest Grant Partnership Act of 1998, which responded to the tragic Carl Drega shootout in 1997 on the Vermont-New Hampshire border, in which two State troopers who did not have bulletproof vests were killed. The federal officers who responded to the scenes of the shooting spree were equipped with life-saving body armor, but the state and local law enforcement officers lacked protective vests because of the cost.

Two years later, we successfully passed the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 2000, and now we will go 3-for-3 this time around. Senator CAMPBELL brings to our effort invaluable experience in this area and during his time in the Senate he has been a leader in the area of law enforcement. As a former deputy sheriff, he knows the dangers law enforcement officers face when out on patrol. I am pleased that we have been joined in this effort by 12 other Senate cosponsors, including Senator HATCH.

Our bipartisan legislation will save the lives of law enforcement officers across the country by providing more help to state and local law enforcement agencies to purchase body armor. Since its inception in 1999, this highly successful Department of Justice program has provided law enforcement officers in 16,000 jurisdictions nationwide with nearly 350,000 new bulletproof vests. In Vermont, 60 municipalities have been fortunate to receive funding for the purchase of 1,905 vests.

The Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 2003 will further the success of the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program by re-authorizing the program through fiscal year 2007. Our legislation would continue the Federal-State partnership by authorizing up to \$50 million per year for matching grants to state and local law enforcement agencies and Indian tribes at the Department of Justice to buy body armor.

We know that body armor saves lives, but the cost has put these vests out of the reach of many of the officers who need them. This program makes it more affordable for police departments of all sizes. Few things mean more to

me than when I meet Vermont police officers and they tell me that the protective vests they wear were made possible because of this program. This is the least we should do for the officers on the front lines who put themselves in danger for us every day. I want to make sure that every police officer who needs a bulletproof vest gets one.

HONORING FAVORITE TEACHERS

Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, nearly 4,000 Minnesotans honored their favorite teacher at my Minnesota State Fair booth this summer. I would like to honor these teachers further by submitting their names to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Forest Lake Senior High School—Alan Anderson, Charles Anderson, Ann Astrup, Rena Benedict, Lee Anne Brockman, John Buck, Jamie Bullock, Julie Busby, Tiffany Busby, Sara Cameron, Julianne Carver, Charles Chalberg, Benjamin Chamberlain, Jenny Coates, Michael Coffee, Colleen Collins, Coleen Colton, Mary Colvin, Anne Dahl, Robert Dettmer, Judy Dittberner, Diane Dugas, Terryl Eikren, Nancy Ellias, Patrick Ellias, Chad Erichsrud, Megan Espe-Och, Alesia Fabini, Benjamin Fisher, Daniel Forsythe, Kristin Gorczynski, Charles Gunderson, Heather Guy, Richard Hahn, Larry Harris, Sara Hartman, Elizabeth Haven, Henry Hebert, Holli Hebl, Dana Herman, James Herman, Judy Hill, Thomas Hipkins, Kristine Hovland, Jennifer Hreha, Susan Jarrett, Ryan Johnson, Joseph Jurasin, Maria Kaiser, Paul Karlsson, Janelle Kendrick, Anthony Kowalewski, Gail Law, Bruce Leventhal, Jeffrey Lewis, Marcus Lewton, James Lindstrom, David Livermore, Laura Livermore, Robyn Madson, Christine Magnan, Robert Marzlof, Larry Matzdorf, Tracy Maxwell, Victoria McDougall, William McElrath, Kenneth Mikolajczyk, Michael Miron, Kristen Nellis, Timothy Newcomb, Thomas Newell, Kelly Nicholls, William Olson, Marilyn Orlich, Nancy Sonnon-Pechmann, Kristina Prescott, Cynthia Riesgraf, Nicolle Ristow, Lyn Ruetten, Ryan Rutten, Barbara Schellinger, Laura Schuster, Theresa Snodie, Kristen Soderlund, Suzanne Stennes-Rogness, Dorothy Sunne, Brenda Swanson, Larry Syverson, Sandra Teichner, Donald Thompson, Larry Tietje, Ronald Tungseth, Bradley Ward, Paul Wieland, Jeffrey Wilson, and Kelly Wing.

Century Junior High School—Mark Allaman, Sherri Alm, Penny Baker, Karleen Boettner, Susan Brown, Nancy Calkins, Katrina Callan, Patricia Cheyne, David Daniels, Steven Ekdahl, Reid Fore, Tiffany Freeman, Kristina Granias, Kristin Gustafson, Joel Hall, Michael Hall, Megan Halverson, Kathleen Hellen, Jennifer Hesse, Richard Hofstede, Kay Jackson, Bonnie Johnson, Brian Johnson, Kathryn Johnson, Paul Kendrick, Glen King, Joy Kleppe, Carolyn Kluk, David Kryzer, Maury, Laqua, Tracy Larson, Karen Lewis, Susan Lidstrom, Stephanie Lourey, William Loushine, Jeri Lovett, Michelle Lynch, Alice Lysaker, Geoff McLaughlin, Lance Meier, Joen Moen-Pearson, Kelly Nuss, Deborah Paul, James Pearson, Pauletter Perkovich, Linnea Peterson, Lynn Randazzo, Brian Rigwald, Pamela Robson, Carol Rupar, Alecia Sand, Justin Sheider, Pamela Schultze, Jan Stauffer, Sandra Swenson, Vicky Trampe, Christopher Vogel, Scott Walcker, David Walker, Louise Walker, Lois Weber, Cynthia Weiss, and Edward Zweber.

Southwest Junior High School—Janelle Bernauer, Donald Bjerke, Margaret Burns-

Hook, Linda Caddy, Amanda Colby, Thomas Cooper, Shawn Everson, Carland Gaustad, Travis Gjerning, Bruse Hafften, Lou Ann Hanson, Debra Hecker, Annerre Hegler, Jeffery Henry, Dennis Hughes, Crystal Ivanish, Paul Jacobs, Daniel Kne, Sheree Koehler, Joanne Leavens, Kimberly MacDonald, Thomas Malerich, Jennifer Mayer, Cheryl McMahan, Lee McNiesh, Daniel Monroe, Benjamin Munsch, Katherine Nagel, James Noll, Kathleen Norquist, Kristin Pariseau, Greg Patchin, Susan Peterson, Arwen Peopard, William Porter, Rosalie Quale, Philip Raaen, Katie Siebert, James Stromber, William Sullivan, Philip Sundblad, Matthew Thelander, Lawrence Underkoffler, Cynthia Walker, Mary Windsor, Heidi Wollschlager.

Forest Lake Area Learning Center—Deborah Anderson, Laura Anton, Ronald Burris, James Caldwell, Eugenia Cerghizan, Shawn Dylla, Richard Elliot, Heidi Errickson-Grahek, Mary Pat Flandrick, Amy France, Theresa Gieschen, Loren Lynch, George Malone, Michael Meier, Brian Roy, Britt Schachtele, Lisa Sodren, Seth Webster, Allison Whittle.

Columbus Elementary—Christine Brewster, Nancy Bulinski, Steven Carr, Jodie Classen, Kathleen Damon, Sharon Deraad, Terry Burei, James Focht, Kathleen Gross, Danna Grunlei, Robert Holewa, Mary Johnson, Alison Linderman, Paulette Miller, Jill Nuebel, Heidi Sapa, Cynthia Solberg, Claudia Stepnick, Frederic Tatting, Kathleen Vail, Mary Vangen, Kimberly Webb, Daniel Winkelman, Barbara Zawadski, and Lois Zemke.

Forest Lake Elementary—Krista Armitage, Donna Benson, Carol Carlson, Daniel Cavanaugh, Christine Davis, Gary Downing, Kelly Duncan, Dianna Heineman, Georgia Heisserer, Mary Holland, Diane Iverson, Michael Jensen, Katherine Jurasin, Clare Kazmierczak, Mary Kryzer, Carol Luschke, Cheri Larson, Julie Larson, Janice Lee, Catherine Massey, Jeanette Maxfield, Jan Mrozinski, Mary Pooch, David Seaburg, Sandra Severson, Joy Sietsema, Nancy Smiley, Mark Smith, Diane Talbot, Michelle Zimmer.

Forest View Elementary—Bruce Abbe, Paul Alexander, Leslie Bergerson, Arlene Bevin, Terry Burk, Margaret Cosary, Laurie Ehlers, Brenda Ely, Linda Foster, Jennifer Franklin, Susan Hansen, Sara Heckel, Kale Henry, Patricia Hoglund, Karl Holle, Amy Huset, Malcom Johnson, Michelle Johnson, Christopher Kotys, Kelly Lessman, Michelle Lewis, Julie Myles, Carol Nygaard, Julie Ohman, Jill Genaw-Olson, Kimberly Rogers, Linda Rygh, Patricia Sargent, David Sauer, Darci Sauvageau, Donna Sobiech, Ryan Soukup, Barbara Teawalt, Cynthia Turry, Amy VanBergen, Marlene Wolinski.

Lino Lakes Elementary—Wendy Amon, Kristin Buckner, Jennifer Currier, Constance Durei, Mary Fortner, Lynn Furnstahl, Diane Giorgi, Amy Greenfield, Katherine Hansen, Mary Beth Higgins, Jeffrey Johnson, Kelly Johnson, Nichole Laven, Renee Loberg, Barbara Lundborg, Brittany Lynch, George Martin, Donna Newell, Bonita Peck, Kristina Quan, Jill Schmidt, Pamela Soukkala, Rosemary Valentine, Barbara Voedisch, Darla Wright.

Linwood Elementary—Christine Amsler, Connie Atchison, Sandra Burton, Mary Seidel-Cox, Cynthia Cunningham, Shelley Guptil, Lisa Guzy, Agnes Hall, Beth Hartway, Diane Hipkins, Christine Hudspeth, Gae Jarvis, Michael Knox, Jami Larson, Judith Marleau, Elizabeth Miller, Susan Montgomery, Susan Mullen, Kimberly Nowicki, Monica O'Rourke, Deanna Pesek, Erin Peterson, Heather Peterson, Janice Schwister, Cynthia Prestegard, Karen Ralidak, Kathryn Robinson, Kathryn Schwister, Ann Severson, Sandra Ternti, and Scott Urness.

Scandia Elementary—Diane Anderson, Joan Arnholt, Laurie Bauer, Kathleen Beach, Barbara Carlson, Jean Clausen, Holly Engvall, Kathleen Garry, Sandra Holcomb, Jan Hughes, Jenna Joelson, Frances Klausen, Cynthia Kramer, Gregory Krentz, Marilyn Larson, Rebecca Magnuson, Jacqueline McMahon, Molly Nemec, Joyce Partyka, Maureen Schwab, Geraldine Seaburg, John Severson, Ellen St. Sauver, Jeremy Swensen, Sandra Valleen, Marlene Wirth, Carol Young, Emily Ziemer.

Wyoming Elementary—Marsha Baer, Michele Bahnmler, Cheryl Binder, Terri Buerkle, Gail Chalbi, Richard Clayton, Daniel Cremsino, Mary DeFord, Mary Ellen Dello, Diane Dummer, Kathleen Edwards, Carol Geiger, Connie Glowacki, Mary Gookins, Joan Harms, Jill Johnson, John Kay Kery Kruger, James Lundborg, Mary Malrick, Lisa Mansell, Kristin Maser, Debra Matheson, Kathleen Mcmorrow, Penny O'Brien, Christine Pietsch, Carrie Pulczynski, Rochelle Quillen, Crystal Rademacher, Diane Reyzlaff, Karen Richards, Cheryl Runquist, Kelly Schuder, Julie Sorensen, Andrew Stoyke, Pamela Thomas, Diana Urness, Jacqueline Wright, Kathleen Wright.

Central Montessori—Laurie Chelgren, Gina Eberspacher, Tara Hahn Christine Hebert, Sandra Learned, Sylvia Nelson, Vicki Peopard, Joyce Reed, Christina Sparby, Mary Tenjack.

Forest Lake School District—Joy Ballou-Jantzen, Joseph Bauer, Elizabeth Benshoof, Lisa Berg, Jame Bona, Kathleen Briguet, Heidi Christian, Lori Dahlquist, Charles Dodson, Tammy Dunrun, Berni Ester, Diane Fairchild, Edward Gibson, Mary Guler, Lisa Houska, Kelli Kaettherhenry, Alexandra Kaslow-Briggs, Loretta Monson, Charles Moses, Heide Muhs, Alissa Nelson, Gayla Peterson, Rachel Peterson, Wendy Pickar, Cynthia Saarela, Priscilla Scherman, Lynn Schwiebert, Nicole Shabelski, Jill Somrock, Donald Spears, Kathryn Stading, Joel-Lynn Tinklenberg, Jennifer Tolzmann, and Callie Tresco.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1533) to amend the securities laws to permit church plans to be invested in collective trash trusts.

The message also announced that the House agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2608) to reauthorize the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2714) to reauthorize the State Justice Institute.

The message also announced that the House agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4175) to increase, effective as of December 1, 2004, the rates of disability compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain-connected disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 524. An act to expand the boundaries of the Fort Donelson National Battlefield to authorize the acquisition and interpretation of lands associated with the campaign that resulted in the capture of the fort in 1862, and for other purposes.

S. 1368. An act to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. (posthumously) and his widow Coretta Scott King in recognition of their contributions to the Nation on behalf of the civil rights movement.

S. 2195. An act to amend the Controlled Substances Act to clarify the definition of anabolic steroids and to provide for research and education activities relative to steroids and steroid precursors.

S. 2864. An act to extend for eighteen months the period for which chapter 12 of title 11, United States Code, is reenacted.

S. 2883. An act to authorize the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Missouri, to be illuminated by pink lights in honor of breast cancer awareness month.

S. 2896. An act to modify and extend certain privatization requirements of the Communications Satellite Act of 1962.

The message also announced that the House passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2760. An act to limit United States assistance for Ethiopia and Eritrea if those countries are not in compliance with the terms and conditions of agreements entered into by the two countries to end hostilities and provide for a demarcation of the border between the two countries, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4917. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Administrative Conference of the United States for fiscal years 2005, 2006, and 2007, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5245. An act to extend the liability indemnification regime for the commercial space transportation industry.

H.R. 5294. An act to amend the John F. Kennedy Center Act to reauthorize appropriations for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5295. An act to amend part III of title 5, United States Code, to provide for the establishment of programs under which supplemental dental and vision benefits are made available to Federal employees, retirees, and their dependents, to expand the contracting authority of the Office of Personnel Management, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House passed the bill (S. 2292) to require a report on acts of anti-Semitism around the world, with amendments.

The message also announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1350) to reauthorize the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and for other purposes, requests a conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon and appoints the following members as the managers of the conference on the part of the House:

From the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for consideration of the house bill and the Senate amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. BOEHNER, CASTLE, EHLERS, KELLER, WILSON of South Carolina, GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. OWENS.

From the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for consideration of section