

Today we honor the legacy of Elizabeth Glaser and the work of these three women.

I said at the outset of these remarks that it is traditional to honor the great historical contributions of women in connection with Women's History Month. The thousands of women working to find a cure, to help those who are suffering, or to cope with this disease in their own lives are surely making a lasting and positive impact on the history of the world.

Mr. President, today I have paid tribute to just a few of these women. My only regret is that I cannot give much deserved thanks and recognition to all the women who have dealt with, or are dealing with, HIV/AIDS in their own lives, in their communities and around the world. In celebrating Women's History Month, we say to them: Thank you. Thank you for your commitment, your compassion, and your courage. Thank you for leading us into a better future.

MICHAEL A. HUGHES

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, today, I express my gratitude to a member of my staff, Michael A. Hughes, who will be returning to his regular job as a senior inspector in the U.S. Marshals Service after tomorrow. Mike has worked in my office for the past 15 months as a legislative fellow, and my staff and I have been extremely fortunate to have Mike's help. We will miss him.

Mike is a New Jersey native who was born in Jersey City. He graduated from Montclair University with a degree in political science and criminal justice in 1990. After college, he joined the U.S. Marshals Service—America's oldest federal law enforcement agency—as a deputy marshal and quickly distinguished himself as an outstanding law enforcement official. For instance, Mike was tasked with the responsibility of accompanying crime boss John Gotti to and from his 1992 trial, and then escorting Gotti to the maximum security facility for federal prisoners in Marion, Illinois, after his conviction and sentencing. Mike was also responsible for protecting high-ranking foreign dignitaries who visited the United Nations headquarters in Manhattan.

Mike conducted several criminal and civil investigations and soon became an inspector in the U.S. Marshals Service's Witness Security Program. Later, he became a senior inspector. Never in the 30-year history of the Witness Security Program has a cooperative participant or his or her family been discovered or harmed. We can attribute much of that recent success to Mike's dedication and professionalism.

It has been helpful to me over the past 15 months to have someone with Mike's extensive personal knowledge of guns and law enforcement issues. Since Mike has been a member of my staff, he has worked on S. 1805, the gun im-

munity bill; S. 1431, my bill to extend the assault weapons ban, and other 2nd Amendment issues. He has also made significant contributions on a number of criminal justice and homeland security matters. Mike is committed to promoting public policies that, if we were to adopt them, would make our country demonstrably safer.

On many occasions, I have remarked that when I moved to the public sector after 30 years in the private sector, I was struck by the dedication, professionalism, and competence of federal employees. I am tired of hearing public sector employees belittled and denigrated in some quarters. I have been impressed by the public servants I have met over the years, and Mike is no exception. He has performed his difficult—and often dangerous—duties with distinction. I think Mike is an outstanding role model for young adults interested in working in our government.

Mr. President, as I thank Mike for his tremendous service and wish him the best of luck in his new endeavors, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank John "Jay" McNulty, who serves as chief of the Marshals Service's Office of Congressional Affairs. Jay made it possible for Mike to come and work for me, and I am grateful for that. I have been fortunate to have Mike on my staff; the Nation is fortunate to have him in the U.S. Marshals Service.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ORGAN DONATION

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I take a moment to recognize the International Association for Organ Donation, IAOD. The IAOD strives to increase awareness of organ donation and transplantation, as well as bone marrow and tissue donation. This organization provides educational and outreach programs to the general public, with a focus on racial and ethnic minorities.

Each April, the International Association for Organ Donation celebrates National Donate Life Month. This year is especially important as it marks the 50th anniversary of the first successful liver transplant. In honor of this monumental occasion, the IAOD is sponsoring "50 Years of Sharing Life" to publicize the plight of those in need of an organ transplant.

Today in America, 83,000 patients are currently awaiting an organ transplant. Although there are 68 successful organ transplants each day, an additional 100 patients are added to the waiting list and sadly, 18 people die each day as they wait for this life-saving procedure. Tissue donations, such as bone marrow, are also in short supply. Nearly 3,000 people are searching the National Marrow Donor Program Registry at any one time and an addi-

tional 3,000 patients are added to the registry each month.

There is something we all can do to reduce these staggering statistics. Great strides could be made if the estimated 10,000 to 14,000 eligible Americans who die each year pledge to become organ donors. The IAOD is a driving force in sharing the message that life is a gift to share.

It is with great pleasure that I offer my sincerest appreciation and support to the International Association for Organ Donation as it celebrates the 50th anniversary of the first successful liver transplant. I give my thanks to the organization, its staff, and its partners as they work to fulfill their lifesaving mission.●

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF SKADDEN, ARPS, SLATE, MEAGHER AND FLOM DELAWARE

• Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 25th anniversary of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher and Flom Delaware. This organization is celebrating a quarter century of nationally renowned expertise in corporate mergers and acquisitions here in the First State. Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher and Flom has built a reputation for providing integral service throughout the Nation and in Delaware. If this organization's first quarter century is any indication of what it will offer in the future, we have much to which to look forward.

Marshall Skadden, John Slate, and Les Arps founded the firm in New York City on April Fool's Day, 1948. After starting with just three lawyers, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher and Flom has grown to more than 1,700 lawyers in nine offices—seven in the United States, one in Tokyo, and one in London. Few, if any, law firms in America today are more highly regarded professionally or financially successful.

The firm's client list includes more than one-third of the Fortune 500 companies, 10 of the top 15 U.S. commercial banks, 23 of the top 25 U.S. investment banks and 7 of the top 10 Japanese banks doing business in the United States. The organization's more than 20 individual practice areas serve as visible proof of the successful philosophy: that the client's needs always come first; that they can and do commit a maximum effort to provide top quality advice and timely service to clients; and that the law firm can and should be run as a business, consistent with professional responsibilities.

It was 25 years ago, in May of 1979, that Rodman Ward, Jr. and Steven J. Rothschild agreed to open the Wilmington, DE, office of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher and Flom, becoming the 46th and 47th partners in that firm. Skadden Delaware became the first major out-of-town law firm to open an office in the State of Delaware.

Over the past 25 years, Skadden Delaware has grown tenfold, from its original six attorneys to its present complement of nearly 60, becoming one of the largest and most influential law offices in the State of Delaware, and employing more than 150 Delawareans.

Skadden Delaware attorneys have counseled clients in many of the largest and most groundbreaking corporate transactions, including highly publicized contests for corporate control, and contributed thereby to the reputation of the Delaware courts as the pre-eminent arbiters of corporate law issues in the world, and to the State of Delaware's dominance as the preferred domicile for corporations large and small across the United States.

Skadden Delaware lawyers have also contributed their professional and personal resources to a wide variety of civic and charitable endeavors outside the confines of their law practice, to the consistent benefit of the State of Delaware and its citizens.

Former Skadden Delaware lawyers have gone on to hold positions of high trust and importance in the State of Delaware, serving on the Court of Chancery and the supreme court, as counsel to the Governor, as U.S. attorney, and as president of the Delaware bar.

I thank Skadden Delaware for all that they do, not only in Delaware, but across the country, and I wish them a very happy 25th anniversary. I rise today to offer my full support and to congratulate them on a remarkable quarter century of success.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 9:48 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker of the House of Representatives has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 3926. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote organ donation, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1997. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, and the Uniform Code of Military Justice to protect unborn children from assault and murder, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

At 12:42 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, with an amendment:

S. Con. Res. 95. Concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009.

The message further announced that the House insist upon its amendment to the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 95) setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009, and ask a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon.

Ordered that Mr. NUSSLE, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. SPRATT, be the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

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

H.R. 3723. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8135 Forest Lane in Dallas, Texas, as the "Vaughn Gross Post Office Building".

H.R. 3917. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 695 Marconi Boulevard in Copiague, New York, as the "Maxine S. Postal United States Post Office".

The message also announced that the House agree to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2584) to provide for the conveyance to the Utrok Atoll local government of a decommissioned National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration ship, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to (10 U.S.C. 111 note) the Minority Leader hereby appoints retired Army Lt. General H.G. (Pete) Taylor, to the Commission on the Review of the Overseas Military Facility Structure of the United States.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3723. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8135 Forest Lane in Dallas, Texas, as the "Vaughn Gross Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3917. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 695 Marconi Boulevard in Copiague, New York, as the "Maxine S. Postal United States Post Office"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2250. A bill to extend the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2002, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-6856. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 02-09; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-6857. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 03-02; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-6858. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act, case number 00-06; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-6859. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a retirement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6860. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Critical Skills Retention Bonus program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6861. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the notification of the Department's intent to transfer \$372 million from the Defense Working Capital Funds to the Operation and Maintenance Appropriations; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6862. A communication from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the transfer of the historic harbor tug ex-HOGA (YTM 146) to the Arkansas Inland Maritime Museum, North Little Rock, Arkansas; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6863. A communication from the Secretary of the Air Force, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of an Average Procurement Unit Cost and a Program Acquisition Unit Cost (PAUC) breach; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6864. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy for the position of Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Logistics and Material Readiness, Department of Defense, received on March 29, 2004; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6865. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Review Panels performing duties pursuant to the Military Commission process; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6866. A communication from the Principal Deputy for Personnel and Readiness, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the annual audit of the American Red Cross; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6867. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition