

more of their tax obligation at a time in which they have cash in hand. I hope that in working with the chairman, we will find a way to address this unfair disparity that is harming our Nation's naval shipbuilders.

Accordingly, I believe that the bill before us strikes the proper balance of providing needed tax relief to the taxpayers in our economy who need it most. It has taken a great deal of work to get us where we are today, yet I firmly believe that providing targeted, affordable tax relief to the manufacturing sector of our economy is certainly the right path to choose in repealing the FSC/ETI rules.

The key here is that this bill simply reallocates the revenue that repealing the FSC/ETI rules will raise and distributes it directly to the primary beneficiaries of those rules—our country's manufacturers, which is indeed appropriate as the manufacturing base is in dire need of help.

While the legislation also simplifies the international tax code and contains other miscellaneous tax cuts designed to create jobs, it does so without increasing the federal budget deficit because it contains tax offsets that will thwart taxpayers' participation in illegal tax shelters and abusive leasing transactions. Consequently, unlike previous tax bills, this legislation is revenue neutral. Therefore, not only is this bill affordable, but it is much needed in order to bolster our manufacturing base and enhance the competitiveness of the U.S. based businesses.

Thank you, Mr. President.

#### MEDICAL LIABILITY REFORM

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, earlier today I voted in favor of invoking cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 2207, the Pregnancy and Trauma Care Access Protection Act. My vote was not an endorsement of S. 2207 as it was introduced in the Senate. In fact, I have concerns about various aspects of the bill—including the \$250,000 cap on noneconomic damages—and I anticipate supporting amendments to S. 2207 if the Senate has an opportunity to fully debate this legislation.

However, I do believe that reform of the medical liability system should be considered as part of a comprehensive response to surging medical malpractice premiums that endanger Americans' access to quality medical care by causing doctors to leave certain communities or to cease offering critical services, such as obstetrical care. For this reason, I voted for cloture on S. 2207 in an effort to move the debate forward.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

#### TRIBUTE TO FLORA ALLEN

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of a noted Kentuckian and inspiring educator, Ms. Flora Allen. I also take this opportunity to extend my condolences to her daughters, Nora Ruth Jenkins and Margaret Cornelison, her five grandchildren, and all who knew and loved this remarkable woman.

Ms. Allen knew she wanted to be a teacher at a very early age. What she didn't know was the amazing impact she would have on the students she taught.

After moving to Berea, KY in 1946, she earned her bachelor's degree in teaching from Berea College and her masters from Eastern Kentucky University. She taught Kentucky history, social studies and science for 32 years. In addition to the traditional lessons, Ms. Allen also taught life lessons, such as how to behave and treat others.

When Ms. Allen was away from the classroom, she was busy in her community. She was a member of the Lioness Club, Berea Retired Teachers Association, Progress Club, Delta Kappa Gamma, and Berea Baptist Church where she taught Sunday school and Bible school. Ms. Allen spent her summers and remaining spare time working in the flower shop she owned with her husband, Allen's Flowers. Even with all this activity, Ms. Allen's best and most admirable attributes can be seen through the lives she touched.

It has become cliché to say that teachers inspire. Undoubtedly, informed of such a happening, Ms. Allen would simply have smiled and stated that it had been her goal all along. What is not cliché is the fact that she instilled in her students a desire to learn, to know, and to understand. Not all of her former students went on to be historians. However, it is certain that a great many of them who were inspired by her have become better citizens.

I ask each of my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Flora Allen; for all that she gave to her community, her students, and to her family. She will be missed.

#### UNR RIFLE TEAM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the rifle team from the University of Nevada Reno on its terrific season this past year.

The Wolf Pack finished the regular season undefeated, making it one of only eight squads eligible for the NCAA Rifle Championships in both the air rifle and small bore disciplines. The Wolf Pack finished third and fourth respectively in these two categories and placed second overall in the two-day competition.

Developing excellence in marksmanship requires countless hours of practice and tremendous skill. The UNR rifle team's accomplishments reflect a lot of hard work and dedication by the

individual members and their coach Fred Harvey. The university and the State can take great pride in their achievements.

Once again, congratulations to the Wolf Pack Rifle Team on a tremendous year, and best wishes for continued success next season.

#### HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

##### PFC JOHN D. AMOS II

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 Valparaiso, IN. Private First Class John Amos II, 22 years old, died in the northern city of Kirkuk, Iraq on April 4, 2004, during an attack when the military vehicle he was riding in was struck by an improvised explosive device.

After graduating from Valparaiso High School in 2002, John joined the Army and was assigned to the C Company, 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, HI. According to his mother, John was serving as the rear guard during a patrol at the time of his death. His deployment began when he joined the efforts in Iraq only 2 months ago. With his entire life before him, John chose to risk everything to fight for the values Americans hold close to our hearts, in a land halfway around the world.

John was the 26th Hoosier soldier to be killed while serving his country in Operation Iraqi Freedom. This brave young soldier leaves behind his father, John; his mother, Susan; his grandfather, Hank Amos; grandparents Doug and Lucy Whitehead; his sister, Rebecca; and his two half brothers Hunter and Tyler. May John's siblings grow up knowing that their brother gave his life so that young Iraqis will some day know the freedom they enjoy.

Today I join John's family, his friends, and the entire Valparaiso 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 his courage and strength of character that people will remember when they think of John, a memory that will burn brightly during these continuing days of conflict and grief.

When looking back on the life of her late son, John's mother, Susan, told the Gary Post-Tribune that her son "was a fun-loving kid and a lot of fun." Today and always, John will be remembered by family members, friends and fellow Hoosiers as a true American hero, and we honor the sacrifice he made while serving his country.

As I search for words to do justice in honoring John'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 John's actions will live on far longer than any record of these words."

It is my sad duty to enter the name of John D. Amos II 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 John'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 America.

#### RETIREMENT OF OFFICER JOHNNY WILSON FROM THE U.S. CAPITOL POLICE

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the distinguished service of Officer Johnny Lee Wilson of the U.S. Capitol Police. Officer Wilson has been posted at the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence for the past 14 years. Regrettably, on April 30, 2004, Officer Wilson will retire from the Capitol Police after more than 27 years of dedicated service.

Officer Wilson was born in Shelby, NC, on November 5, 1945. Following a move to Washington, DC, he finished high school. He then served in the Armed Forces, where he saw combat in an Army infantry unit in Vietnam in the late 1960s. At the conclusion of his tour, he was decorated for outstanding performance.

Officer Wilson then returned to Washington, DC, to pursue his college degree. In 1975, he graduated from Washington, DC's Howard University with a bachelor of science degree.

In April 1977, Officer Wilson began his service with the U.S. Capitol Police. For nearly three decades, he has dedicated himself to protecting the lives of visitors, staff, and Members as they go about their daily business here on Capitol Hill. It is a job which has become increasingly stressful since the terrorist attacks of 9/11. Despite the added threats, Officer Wilson has performed his duties superbly. His patience, discipline, and attention to detail have made him an asset to the Capitol Police and to the Intelligence Committee.

Officer Wilson's tireless dedication to the U.S. Capitol Police should serve as an inspiration to everyone in law enforcement. He is a tremendous officer and a great friend to many in the U.S. Senate. He will be truly missed as he enjoys his well-earned retirement.

Congratulations Officer Wilson, you are a fine public servant and a man of

integrity and character. I extend my best wishes to your wife Weddie and your children—Gina and John-Paul. Good luck to you in retirement and thanks again for your fine service.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER, I add my voice to the comments of my colleague, Senator ROBERTS, concerning the contributions and outstanding performance of Officer Johnny Wilson from the United States Capitol Police. Officer Wilson is a 27-year veteran of the Capitol Police who is scheduled to retire in a few days. He has spent the past 14 years posted outside the offices of the Senate Intelligence Committee. During that time, we came to think of Johnny as part of our staff and part of our family. It will be both odd and disappointing not seeing him outside our door every morning.

Officer Wilson, a Vietnam veteran, joined the Capitol Police on April 4, 1977, and has dedicated his career to protecting the lives of Members of Congress, their staffs and the thousands of tourists who visit Capitol Hill each year. He is a fine example of the professionalism, dedication and work ethic of the men and women of the United States Capitol Police.

But what sets Johnny apart is the way in which he carries out his duties. He is outgoing and upbeat, with a hello and a kind word for anyone who crosses his path. Everyone that passes through the second floor corridor outside the Intelligence Committee Hart Building offices knows Johnny and he knows them—if he doesn't he makes them think he does. At the same time he is unflappable when confronting tense situations and approaches his responsibilities with complete seriousness.

In an era of technological advancements in biometrics and other enhanced security identification methods, there is absolutely no substitute for a professional law enforcement officer on the first line of defense. With Officer Wilson on the job, we all knew we were well protected.

Officer Wilson's dedication to the United States Capitol Police has been proven on many occasions and he has been an excellent example of someone raising the bar of excellence for his peers. He has been a great friend to many in the United States Senate and he truly will be missed. I congratulate this fine public servant, a man of integrity and character, and I wish him well in his impending retirement.

#### WORLD HEALTH DAY

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I come to the Senate floor today to talk about an issue that is very important to me personally, but one that is also quickly becoming a concern across the globe: traffic crashes and the resulting fatalities and injuries.

Today is World Health Day. World Health Day is celebrated every year on April 7, focusing each year on a different public health problem. For the first time ever, in response to the

growing number of traffic deaths worldwide, the World Health Organization chose the theme of "Road Safety" for World Health Day 2004. The goal is to raise awareness of traffic safety in hopes of reducing the staggering number of traffic related fatalities and injuries that occur worldwide each year. Efforts are being launched today in the U.S. and worldwide to encourage action in policy, programs, funding and research on traffic safety.

Consider these statistics: Every year, nearly 1.2 million people die worldwide in motor vehicle crashes and an estimated 10 to 15 million people are injured. In the U.S. alone, almost 43,000 people are killed each year and nearly 3 million are injured. Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for people ages 1-34 and are one of the top ten causes of death for all ages. In North Dakota, it is estimated that motor vehicle crashes cost our citizens \$290 million in 2000, or \$452 per person. Sadly, experts predict that road traffic fatalities will double by the year 2020.

Today in Washington, the Pan-American Health Organization, PAHO, along with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, AAA, and many other organizations are emphasizing the importance of safety belt use as part of the efforts for World Health Day. Seat belts are the single most effective means of reducing the risk of death in a crash and have saved approximately 135,000 lives and prevented 3.8 million injuries in the last 26 years in the U.S. If everyone consistently wore a seat belt, more than 7,000 American deaths could be prevented each year.

This initiative coincides with our efforts in Congress to reauthorize the transportation bill. I supported passage of the Senate bill, which would provide a needed boost in funding and policy support for important safety initiatives, and offered an amendment to crack down on an important traffic safety issue, states that allow driving with an open container of alcohol.

I applaud the World Health Organization, PAHO, AAA and all the individuals and organizations that are working today and throughout the year to draw attention to the growing problem of traffic crashes. We need to sound the alarm—43,000 deaths in the U.S. and 1.2 million worldwide are too many.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, today I recognize World Health Day, which is celebrated every year on April 7 in order to bring awareness to a specific health issue of global significance. This year, the World Health Organization has selected "Road Safety" as the theme for World Health Day.

Road safety is an imperative public health challenge that needs to be addressed. Every year, nearly 1.2 million people die in motor vehicle crashes worldwide and an estimated 10 to 15 million people are injured. In the United States, nearly 43,000 people die each year from motor vehicle crashes, making auto fatalities the number one