

changes together the result would be a \$50 billion reduction in the U.S. current account deficit, which in turn translates to about 500,000 high-paying jobs, mainly in manufacturing in this country.

Senator CHARLES SCHUMER and I have introduced legislation that would require China to abide by its international trade agreements and stop manipulating their currency. The goal of this legislation is to remove China's unfair currency advantage and the detrimental impact that it is having in the U.S. and abroad.

Our legislation would require the Secretary of the Treasury to immediately enter into formal negotiations with China to ensure that China initiates a process to adopt a market-based system of currency within 180 days of enactment of this Act. If China refuses to do so, a 27.5 percent tariff will be imposed on all China's exports to the United States in order to reduce the export advantage provided by China's unfairly and illegally valued currency. The President of the United States has the authority to remove the tariff once he certifies to Congress that China has moved to a market-based system of currency valuation.

This legislation works within the framework of international trade laws. Article XXI of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade allows a member of the World Trade Organization to take "any action which is considers necessary for the protection of its essential security interests," particularly "in a time of war or other emergency in international relations." The President has stated a view that many of us hold, that our nation's manufacturing capability is a vital national interest. I know I am not alone when I say that this national interest is threatened by China's unfair currency practices.

Something must be done to alleviate the detrimental economic impact China is having on our manufacturing industry or at the very least, to level the playing field for future generations. I urge the Leadership to allow a vote on this important legislation. I believe it will receive overwhelming bipartisan support and give the Administration one more tool to get the Chinese to uphold their WTO obligations.

As long as we sit by and allow China to maintain its unfair trade advantage, the United States will continue to hemorrhage jobs. Passing this legislation is one step further to ensuring that China abides by the rules.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### HONORING ALYSON MIKE

• Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today with great pride to honor Montana's 2004 Teacher of the Year Award winner, Alyson Mike. Alyson overcame a lengthy list of quality teachers in Montana to secure this award. It is an

honor to recognize her outstanding contribution to Montana.

Alyson represents the type of teacher Montana has come to expect from its teaching community. She is an educator who meets the highest standards of professional excellence. Alyson is a student's teacher. She delivers to each and every one of her students without expectation of reward.

Alyson teaches middle school science at East Valley Middle School in Helena, MT, my home town. Sadly, like so many other rural communities, Helena has struggled economically in recent years. In this community, bake sales, garage sales, and silent auctions have become the norm, simply to raise funds for the school. But this has not stopped Alyson and members of the community from making sure the students receive what they need to succeed.

Like so many Montana teachers, Alyson takes a hands-on approach to ensure her students have access to a variety of materials and equipment. In Alyson's mind, there are no limits to what her students can accomplish.

Alyson earned her National Board Certification and has become a State leader in Montana's professional development. She is a leader to her students and encourages other teachers to make a difference in student's lives. Alyson's extensive background and knowledge in science, proven teaching strategies, and great sense of humor make her a Montana treasure.

We in Montana are very fortunate to be able to claim a teacher like Alyson Mike as our very own. She is a fabulous representative of the very best of public education in Montana and across our Nation. •

#### HONORING STUDENTS REPRESENTING RHODE ISLAND IN THE "WE THE PEOPLE: THE CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION" COMPETITION

• Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, from May 1-3, 2004, more than 1,200 students from across the United States will visit Washington, DC, to take part in the national finals of "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution," an educational program developed specifically to educate young people about the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the "We the People" program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education by act of Congress.

I am proud to announce that students from Central Falls High School will represent the State of Rhode Island in this national event. These outstanding students, through their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution, won their statewide competition and earned the chance to come to Washington and compete at the national level.

The three-day "We the People" National Finals Competition is modeled after hearings in the U.S. Congress. The students are given an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge before

a panel of judges while they evaluate, take, and defend positions on relevant historical and contemporary issues.

I wish these students the best of luck at the "We the People" national finals and applaud their achievement. I am sure that this valuable experience will encourage these young Rhode Islanders to remain engaged with government and public policy issues in the future. •

#### ERNIE HARTUNG, UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO'S TWELFTH PRESIDENT

• Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, today I pay my respects to Ernie Hartung, the 12th president of the University of Idaho, who passed away last fall.

I felt a special kinship to President Hartung for two reasons. The first was that we both came to the university as freshmen in 1965. He as a freshman president and I as a freshman student. As he often said, he considered himself to be a member of the class of 1969 because of that freshman connection.

The second reason for our special kinship was that I served as student body president in 1968-69 and had a close working relationship with President Hartung. He was a tireless advocate for student involvement, and the students responded by becoming strong, vocal supporters of President Hartung.

It is unlikely that any University of Idaho president ever generated the degree of grassroots student support that Ernie Hartung did. The best indication of this came on March 17, 1969. The university was facing a number of serious issues, and President Hartung had been publicly criticized by the Governor. In response, 4,500 students showed up at a campus rally on a cold, rainy night to voice their support for their university president. It was a remarkable showing of support for an extraordinary leader.

Ernie Hartung had a significant impact on the lives of thousands of Idahoans. On April 24th, 2004, the University of Idaho will be honoring this leader and his contributions. I appreciate my colleagues joining me today while I acknowledge all that President Hartung did, not only for me but for thousands of other University of Idaho alumni and Idahoans. While we miss him sorely, it is comforting to know that Idaho is a better place because of Ernie Hartung. •

#### NATIONAL PRIMARY IMMUNE DEFICIENCY DISEASES AWARENESS WEEK

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the week of April 19 as National Primary Immune Deficiency Diseases Awareness Week. Primary immune deficiency diseases, PIDD, are genetic disorders in which part of the body's immune system is missing or does not function properly.

The World Health Organization recognizes more than 150 primary immune diseases, which affect as many as 50,000 people in the United States.

Fortunately, 70 percent of PIDD patients are able to maintain their health through regular infusions of a plasma product known as intravenous immunoglobulin, IGIV. IGIV helps bolster the immune system and provides critical protection against infection and disease.

I want to share with my colleagues the story of one family in Washington State affected by PIDD, the Trump family, who have common variable immune deficiency, CVID, one of the more common forms of primary immune deficiency diseases. Gary Trump's first wife, Tracee, carried CVID for at least 18 years prior to diagnosis. During that time, she suffered repetitive infections, even life-threatening disease, but was never properly diagnosed. In 1993, 8 days after the birth of their second son, Christian, Tracee was struck down by viral encephalitis, and suffered through 4 years of pain, amnesia, and total disability prior to passing away in 1997. Their first son, Darren, also had numerous infections, almost from birth. Within a year of Tracee's diagnosis, Darren was tested and found to have CVID. Christian, who nearly died of viral pneumonia at 2 months of age, was also diagnosed with CVID.

The Trump family is not unique with the difficulty and delay in diagnosis of primary immune deficiency disease. Despite the recent progress in PIDD research, the average length of time between the onset of symptoms in a patient and a definitive diagnosis of PIDD is 9.2 years. In the interim, those afflicted may suffer repeated and serious infections and possibly irreversible damage to internal organs. That is why it is critical that we raise awareness about these illnesses within the general public and the health care community.

I am proud to have the opportunity to recognize the week of April 19 as National Primary Immune Deficiency Diseases Awareness Week. I encourage my colleagues to work with us to help improve the quality of life for PIDD patients and their families.

#### TRIBUTE TO SISTER MARY EILEEN WILLHELM, RSM

• Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I rise today to give tribute to Sister Mary Eileen Wilhelm, RSM, who has served as the chief executive officer at Mercy Medical for more than 36 years. She has led Mercy Medical in its mission to care for the sick, the injured, and the dying since she took on the role of CEO in 1967. Her passion for healthcare has led her to continually do what is best for the patients, the residents, and their families.

Since its founding in 1949 by the Sisters of Mercy, Mercy Medical has been a leader among healthcare providers in Alabama's Mobile Bay area. As CEO of Mercy, Sister Mary Eileen has remained focused on continuing the healing ministry of Jesus in the compas-

sionate and excellent tradition of the Sisters of Mercy. This has helped Mercy grow from a small convalescent home by the bay in Daphne, into an integrated network of healthcare options throughout southwest Alabama and recognized throughout the Nation for its innovative procedures.

Mercy Medical works with patients of all ages, from the very young to the most senior, to maximize their functional abilities and return all patients to their highest possible level of wellness. In addition, Mercy Medical is renowned for its hospice services, providing quality living when individuals face the end of this Earthly existence. Working with physicians, interdisciplinary medical teams establish individualized treatment plans which direct overall courses of intensive therapy, specialized clinical services and/or other patient care and activities. Most importantly, the Mercy Medical team always ministers to not only the physical needs but offers comfort and healing to the spirit as well.

Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, has inspired Sister Eileen to be strong in the face of adversity, calm in the midst of crisis, and willing to take risks. This has allowed her to lead the Mercy Medical staff to identify and meet the healthcare needs of the weak and vulnerable. Additionally, due to her humility, tenacity, and commitment, Mercy Medical is recognized as a leader in the healthcare community. One of the core values of Mercy Medical is the empowerment of women, and Sister Mary Eileen, as an empowered woman, has led the fight to eradicate poverty nationally by taking on the cause of the poor to our Nation's capital. Indeed, her sincerity and power of persuasion, which I have directly felt, is remarkable. It is clearly a product of her selfless commitment to her vision for others.

On behalf of the United States Senate and the people of Alabama, I would like to recognize Sister Mary Eileen for giving more than 44 years of love and devotion to the sick, injured, and dying. She has been truly a blessing for the people of south Alabama, and her legacy will live on forever.●

#### THE 440TH BIRTHDAY OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE — RECOGNIZING THE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVALS IN CALIFORNIA

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the greatest writers the world has ever known: William Shakespeare. As you may well know, this week marks the 440th birthday of the great author and playwright. As a foremost literary talent of his and every age thereafter, his works have stood the test of time and are still widely celebrated over four centuries later.

Scholars credit William Shakespeare with authoring 37 plays and 154 sonnets over the course of his life. These works

continue to both move and entertain today, as they did the people of his time. His plays can be found performed daily the world round in their traditional fashion, and many of his works have been adapted to accommodate modern issues and themes. As a result, his genius and creative achievement have transcended time and touched people of all generations.

I am proud that my State of California shares a large population who take the time to celebrate the life and work of Shakespeare. California is home to some of the largest organizations dedicated to nourishing their communities through both artistic endeavors and educational programs celebrating the Bard's work. Combined, California Shakespeare festivals perform for more than 95,000 Californians annually.

It is my pleasure to congratulate the California Shakespeare Festival on celebrating their 30th anniversary this year. Beginning with a few Berkeley residents performing "Hamlet" to local community members, the California Shakespeare Festival has developed into a successful production company that runs four Shakespearian theaters. Through their Artistic Learning Initiative, the festival seeks to inspire and educate young artists of all backgrounds through the gift of Shakespeare's works.

Since 1983, when I was mayor of San Francisco, the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival has brought the works of Shakespeare to large and diverse audiences through their Free Shakespeare in the Park program. In cooperation with the Oakland-East Bay and Silicon Valley Shakespeare Festivals, the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival brings innovative and inspiring professional performances to over 50,000 each summer.

I also recognize the contributions of the American Friends of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust to bringing the legacy of William Shakespeare to Washington, DC, with their gift of eight sculptures to the Folger Shakespeare Library. Sculpted by artist Greg Wyatt, the eight pieces are half-size replicas of the Shakespearian-inspired artwork in the Great Garden in Stratford-upon-Avon.

I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating Shakespeare's birthday and the inspirational and lasting works he contributed to our world. William Shakespeare's poems and plays continue to inspire countless generations of young writers, further the world's love of the written word as well as performances, and reminds us all to "be not afraid of greatness."●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:52 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate: