

upon such research by linking global warming gases to increased incidence of allergies and asthma in the inner city. The report states that rising levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide, due mainly to fossil fuel combustion, not only trap more heat, but they promote greater pollen and mold growth and associated asthma.

On World Asthma Day, the air may not be clear, but the message is: We must immediately and dramatically reduce smog- and ozone-forming pollution and global warming gases in order to protect public health. The President's Clear Skies initiative won't do the job, neither will the EPA's new administrative rules that just postpone real pollution reduction for a decade or more.

I urge the administration and the Congress to put aside partisan differences and polluters' special interests to protect the precious lives of those we represent. To live is to breathe. Until all Americans can breathe freely, our work is not yet done.

MOTORSPORTS FACILITIES FAIRNESS ACT

Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina. Mr. President, I rise today to urge my colleagues to join me in supporting S. 1524, the Motorsports Facilities Fairness Act.

S. 1524 would clarify the tax treatment of motorsports facilities, codifying the 7-year depreciation classification that track owners have used, in good faith, for many years. This classification went without question in numerous audits and reviews until very recently. Now the IRS wants to implement a new interpretation of the law that would result in a retroactive tax increase for motorsports facility owners.

This new interpretation would penalize the owners of motorsports entertainment facilities who have invested hundreds of millions of dollars in these properties in order to meet the demands of sanctioning bodies and racing fans. Technological changes and enhanced safety requirements can render even recent track repair and reconstruction obsolete. Tracks must also compete to host premier racing events, in part by drawing as many fans as possible. This is why facilities must constantly renovate, rebuild, upgrade and expand.

Darlington Raceway in South Carolina typifies this reinvestment ethic. The track that is "too touch to tame," is undergoing substantial upgrades. Earlier this year, Darlington installed "SAFER" (Steel And Foam Energy Reduction) barriers. The track is currently installing lighting for night racing, which will be completed before the next running of the NASCAR Southern 500 in November.

S. 1524 would not only cover large facilities such as Darlington. The legislation would also clarify the tax law for hundreds of tracks around the country,

including approximately 30 other facilities in South Carolina alone.

The government should not punish these track owners for making capital investments in their facilities. These investments provide substantial economic benefits for the communities where these facilities are located.

Congress should promptly enact S. 1524 to provide certainty and clarity to the Tax Code and to encourage motorsports facility owners to continue to make economically beneficial investments.

CELEBRATING GOVERNMENT WORKERS NATIONWIDE

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the hundreds of thousands of civilian and military employees who have chosen to dedicate their lives to public service. This week, from May 3 through May 9, we celebrate Public Service Recognition Week. Organized by the Public Employees Roundtable since 1985, this week allows us to honor those who have chosen to serve their country and to educate the public about the broad variety of services government provides.

President Kennedy once said: "Let the public service be a proud and lively career. And let every man and woman who works in any area of our Nation's government, in any branch, at any level, be able to say with pride and honor in future years: 'I served the United States Government in that hour of our Nation's need.'" Our Nation is most certainly in a time of need. Great uncertainty exists about the state of world relations, the direction our Nation is headed, and the economic welfare of our society. Unfortunately, the pride and honor associated with public service has been diminished by a lack of respect. Rather than commending the important work Federal civilian employees do side-by-side with our military employees, society too often seeks to belittle their contributions; choosing instead to characterize the civil service as a large, inflexible bureaucracy.

At the Federal level, we are experiencing a disturbing trend. The ranks of bright, active, and well-trained Federal employees are slowly diminishing. Of our 1.8 million Federal civil servants, 50 percent will be eligible to retire over the next five years. At the same time, a national poll by the Partnership for Public Service found that only one in four college-educated Americans expressed significant interest in working for the Federal Government. A recent survey by the Council for Excellence in Government said that young people, while eager to find a job that will allow them to help people, are less likely to choose government jobs than work in the non-profit sector.

In my view, however, if our young people understood the expertise, the sacrifice, and the dedication required to serve the public, they would be less inclined to belittle this calling and

more inclined to answer it. Young people should know, for instance, that civilian employees from agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Capitol Police and the FBI worked side by side with the Coast Guard and the Marine Corps Chemical Biological Incident Response Force from Indian Head, MD to respond to the discovery of ricin in the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Without the civilian Federal researchers at the Human Genome Project, we would know much less about the make-up of the human body and, more importantly, be much further away from providing cures to genetic disorders such as cystic fibrosis and sickle cell anemia. Their work—a complete description of the draft of the DNA sequence of the human genome—was completed faster than originally planned.

Without the hard work done by the civilian employees at the National Security Agency, we would likely be without a few things that today we consider basic necessities, such as computers and cassette tapes. Further, the development of more advanced theories and technologies such as quantum mathematics, nanotechnology, biometrics, and semiconductors—which are quickly changing our world's technological landscape—would have been hindered or never started but for the efforts of NSA's dedicated and innovative employees.

The employees at the National Institute of Standards and Technology's Building and Fire Research Laboratory are about as inconspicuous a group of researchers as exist. But without them there would be no standard coupling for fire hoses or hydrants. If you do not know why that's important, consider the devastating fire that destroyed 2,500 buildings in an 80-block area in the heart of Baltimore in 1904. Responders came from fire departments in D.C., New York, and Philadelphia to help put out the blaze. But each department's hoses had different threads, so they could not be linked to Baltimore's hydrants, making them almost useless. After the fire, the Building and Fire Research Laboratory's predecessor, the National Bureau of Standards, worked with the National Fire Prevention Association to develop national standards and codes for fire equipment, which departments still use today.

Finally, thanks to scientists at the National Cancer Institute, NCI, and the Food and Drug Administration, FDA, women's chances of detecting ovarian cancer earlier and possibly recovering have increased. Working together, NCI and FDA discovered that patterns of proteins found in patients' serum may reflect the presence of ovarian cancer, even at early stages. Currently, more than 80 percent of ovarian cancer patients are diagnosed at a late clinical stage and have a 20 percent or less chance of survival. This research may increase those chances.

During this Public Service Recognition Week, I urge my colleagues to take a moment to appreciate advances such as these that our Nation and society have made as a result of the hard work of Federal civil servants. When President Kennedy initially released his Peace Corps proposal, the reactions he received convinced him that "we have, in this country, an immense reservoir of such men and women—eager to sacrifice their energies and time and toil to the cause of world peace and human progress." Things have not changed. The American populace is still full of men and women who want to serve. The challenge for us, as a Congress and a Federal Government, is to convince more of those men and women that civil service is a laudable way to serve their country.

RESCUE COST ANALYSIS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the executive summary and recommendations of the following August 2001 Report to Congress titled: "Analysis of Cost Recovery for High-altitude Rescues on Mt. McKinley, Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska" be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY—ANALYSIS OF COST RECOVERY FOR HIGH-ALTITUDE RESCUES ON MT. MCKINLEY, DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE, ALASKA, AUGUST, 2001

INTRODUCTION

The following report addresses the requirements of Public Law 106-486 enacted November 9, 2000, directing the National Park Service to complete a mountain climber rescue cost recovery study by August 9, 2001. This report describes the role of the National Park Service and Denali National Park and Preserve (DNP&P) in search and rescue activities and analyzes the suitability and feasibility of recovering the costs of high-altitude rescues on Mt. McKinley. It addresses the three items required in the legislation.

(1) Recovering the costs of rescues on Mt. McKinley.

(2) Requiring climbers to provide proof of medical insurance before the issuance of a climbing permit.

(3) Charging for a climbing permit and changing the fee structure. This report was prepared with existing funds.

A variety of organizations and individuals were involved in the development of this report. They included: the National Park Service, Alaska Regional Office and Washington Office; American Alpine Club; 210th Alaska Air National Guard; U.S. Army at Fort Wainwright; Mountain Guide Concessionaires; Access Fund; Alaska Mountain Rescue Association; Alaska State SAR Coordinator; Providence, Valley, and Alaska Regional Hospitals; Mountain Rescue Association; and the Alaska Mountaineering Club.

RECOMMENDATIONS

After a thorough analysis of the suitability and feasibility of cost recovery, this report recommends the following:

Part One: The Suitability and Feasibility of Rescue Cost Recovery

1. Based on the relationship of DNP&P to the national program for National Park

Service search and rescue, the relationship to the practices of other agencies, the practices of the military, and the practices of the State of Alaska, the Park Service recommends that the current policy of not charging for search and rescue be continued. If the other federal agencies and the military develop a policy for the collection of search and rescue costs from participants in high risk activities, the National Park Service should also participate. This would best be done through the passage of legislation that applies to all federal agencies and branches of the military that currently rescue members of the public in need.

2. To reduce National Park Service costs related to evacuation of injured climbers, the park will work with Providence Hospital in Anchorage regarding additional operation by the hospital of its Lifeguard helicopter to transport injured climbers from the 7,200-foot base camp on Mt. McKinley. Like most ambulance services, the hospital bills the patient directly for the service. This would reduce the use of military and NPS helicopters for a service that can be provided by a private entity.

Part Two: Suitability and Feasibility of Requiring Proof of Medical Insurance

1. The review of incidents shows no information indicating a problem of any magnitude. DNP&P, therefore, recommends not requiring proof of medical insurance at this time. DNP&P will continue to monitor with the hospitals and work with insurance companies to determine if a need exists in the future to require proof of insurance. If proof of medical insurance were to be made a new requirement, it would be best to set the precedent consistent across agencies and different types of high-risk activities.

2. DNP&P will encourage climbers to carry medical insurance and will provide information with registration packets and pre-climb briefings about access to providers specializing in climbing insurance.

Part Three: Climber Registration Fee Review

1. In order to help recover costs for the human waste management studies, an additional \$50.00 fee should be added to the current \$150.00 climber registration fee. The total fee for climbing Mt. McKinley or Mt. Foraker would then be \$200.00.

2. Currently, only climbers of Mt. McKinley and Mt. Foraker are required to register. Initiate required registration for all other climbers in DNP&P. This would help ensure all climbers receive safety and waste management information.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

Christopher Hutcherson of Biloxi is accused of capital murder in the January stabbing death of John Brown Smith III, 39, of Fort Walton Beach, FL. A detective testified that Hutcherson told investigators that he stabbed Smith because the retired military man made sexual advances while holding a gun on him. The detective said Smith and Hutcherson were at an adult video arcade, known as a

gay pick-up place, the morning of the killing. Hutcherson told investigators that he left the video store and went to Smith's nearby hotel room. The two men drank alcohol before leaving the hotel in Smith's pickup. Smith's body was later found on the rural road by a passerby.

I believe that Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL WMD RESOLUTION

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, speaking before the UN General Assembly in September, President Bush asked the Security Council to take a firm stand against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, WMD. President Bush asked for a Security Council resolution that would call on all nations to criminalize proliferation, enact strict export controls and secure these terrible weapons within their own borders.

Seven months later, on April 28, the UN Security Council unanimously passed Resolution 1540 fulfilling the President's goals. Those who have argued that this administration has turned its back on the international community need only look at the diverse group of nations—from Algeria to Angola, Chile to China, Pakistan to the Philippines—that stood with the United States in this important battle in the war on terror to dispel such notions.

It is now up to the members of the United Nations to follow the Security Council lead and enact the provisions that will help stem the flow of dangerous weapons and technology.

This resolution is the culmination of the administration's hard work, led by Under Secretary of State John Bolton, to halt the proliferation of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons. The President's proliferation security initiative, launched last March, embodies these efforts. It has brought together nations from North America, Europe, Africa, and Asia to interdict shipments of WMD around the world. This resolution endorses such important collective action and I urge all nations to join in the effort.

I applaud the administration and the Security Council for helping take an important step to building a safer, more secure world.

HOMEFRONT HEROES

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I will take a few moments to recognize an organization that embodies the selflessness we hold dear in the United States. In Grand Junction, CO, Homefront Heroes was organized to answer the needs of spouses and family members left behind by deployed soldiers from across