

advertising for kids than it is to regulate advertising for adults, and that happened after 1978.

It is time to change that, and my bill will restore the authority of the Federal Trade Commission to regulate marketing to kids, just as they do for adults, and it encourages them to do so.

The fourth component of my bill, the HELP America Act, addresses reimbursements for prevention services. Right now, our medical system is set up to pay doctors to perform a \$20,000 gastric bypass instead of offering advice on how to avoid such risky procedures in the beginning.

My bill will reimburse and reward health care professionals for practicing prevention and screenings. It will expand Medicare coverage to pay for counseling on nutrition and physical activity, mental health screenings, and smoking cessation programs for the elderly.

Time and again—and I am sure the present occupant of the chair has seen it in his own State—if you go to, let's say, a senior citizens center where they have an active program for wellness, where they have physical exercise, where they have nutrition counseling, mental health counseling, getting elderly people who have been smoking all their life off tobacco, you will find those elderly people use less hospital care services, they go to the hospital less; they go to the doctor less than elderly people who either do not go to a senior citizens center or go to a senior citizens center where they simply sit around and play cards. We know that. We need to expand Medicare coverage to pay for that kind of physical activity, mental health screenings, and smoking cessation programs.

Does it cost money? You bet. But think of the money we are going to save in the long run. Again, I get back to my car. If you bought a new car and drove it home, and you never changed the oil, you never changed the transmission fluid, you never had it tuned up, and you just drove it until the engine seized up because it ran out of oil, yes, you can go down and put a new engine in it. I think that will cost you a lot more than if you just change the oil periodically and gave it a tuneup periodically. That is what we are talking about here. We are doing the same thing.

Finally, let me point out that the HELP America Act will be funded by creating a new national health promotion trust fund paid for through a penalty on tobacco companies that fail to cut smoking rates among children, and also by ending the taxpayer subsidy of tobacco advertising and closing a few other tax loopholes.

I want to mention the subsidy of tobacco advertising. We see a lot of ads for tobacco. That is a tax-deductible expense for tobacco companies. Billions of dollars every year are spent advertising tobacco. Everything from the Marlboro Man to Kool Lights—we see

them all the time; I cannot remember them all—all paid for by a tax deduction.

I am not saying that a tobacco company cannot advertise tobacco. It is still legal to buy it. They have the right to advertise it, but they do not have any constitutional right to get a tax deduction for it.

A lot of people say to me: Senator HARKIN, you want to take away their constitutional right to advertise.

I said: No, I do not. It is free speech. It is a legal product. So far it is legal. They can advertise it, but there is no constitutional right for a tax deduction for them to advertise tobacco, and I think it is time that we remove that and put that savings into a health promotion trust fund.

It is time for the Congress to lead America in a new direction. We need a new health care paradigm, a prevention paradigm.

As I said in the beginning, some will argue avoiding obesity and preventable disease is strictly a matter of personal responsibility. We all agree individuals should act responsibly, and I am all for personal responsibility. But when something reaches the proportions that we have today where it is a public health crisis, where it is impacting every single American and the insurance we have to pay for our own health insurance, where it is clogging up our hospitals with people who are in for chronic illnesses and diseases, where it is costing more and more on Medicare, which we subsidize, or Medicaid, then it is time for the Government to act responsibly.

We have a responsibility, at a minimum, to ensure that people have the information, the tools, the incentives, and the support they need to take charge of their own health. That is what the HELP America Act is all about.

Again, the description I have just given of this quite comprehensive bill is just scratching the surface. I obviously did not go into all the parts of it. I do not want to take any more time here today. But the HELP America Act is a comprehensive bill addressing health promotion, illness prevention, physical activity, everything from early childhood to late adulthood, everything from schools to communities to workplaces to government.

I know it probably will not pass right away, but I hope this becomes a part of our national debate. This is a political year. Fortunately, I am not running. Fortunately, the Senator from Texas is not running. Obviously, there are a lot of people out there running for political office this year, and there will be a lot of talk about health care and how we are going to do Medicare and how we do Medicaid and how we do the health insurance crisis and prescription drugs, and all this is going to be talked about.

It is time for our Presidential candidates on both sides to begin talking about keeping people healthy, pre-

venting illness, and what do we need to do to change this paradigm from a sick care system to a health care system. We need that public debate because I believe the American people want that shift. They want to be healthier. They want to eat better. They want to have a healthier lifestyle. But it just seems as if everything in our country is tilted against that healthier lifestyle.

When you do not have a sidewalk on which to walk, when you do not have a bike path on which to ride your bike, when kids in school have no physical activity whatsoever, when kids in school have junk food shoved at them in vending machines up and down one aisle and another, when kids at the earliest age watch their Saturday morning TV shows and all they see is candy, sugar, and fats pushed at them, when our workplaces have no incentives to provide wellness to their employees, when the elderly get Medicare and if they get sick, right to the hospital, right to a doctor, Medicare pays; thank God for Medicare. But shouldn't Medicare also be trying to keep them healthy in the first place?

People want this. The American public wants this kind of support. They want this paradigm shift to lead healthier lifestyles.

It is time for us to get on with this business of doing so.

In closing, it is time to heed the golden rule of holes, which says, when you are in a hole, stop digging. Well, we have dug one whopper of a hole in our health care system by only addressing illness and by failing to emphasize prevention and wellness. It is time to stop digging that hole. It is time to commit ourselves to healthier lifestyles and changing the incentive structure, changing this paradigm that we have in this country, a paradigm shift from a sick care system to a health care system.

I thank the indulgence of the occupant of the chair for giving me this time on a Friday afternoon.

Mr. HARKIN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. DOLE). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2004

Mr. BROWNBACK. Madam President, from the central highlands of Vietnam to the Darfur region of Sudan, and from the Tumen river dividing North Korea and China to the roof of the world in Bhutan and Nepal, nearly 12 million people worldwide are refugees. Sunday, June 20, 2004 is World Refugee Day. This week, at events both in Washington and around the world, policymakers, advocates and concerned individuals will direct our attention to

the plight of those who seek safety from persecution in their homelands.

Refugees face the most difficult of circumstances. Their stories of escape from persecution are more dramatic than anything Hollywood could script and often too horrific for most of us to imagine. Stories of unspeakable brutality, long journeys, and family separation are not the exception but the rule. Often, refugees are alive only because of a faith in God and an unshakeable will to survive.

Tragically, however, the plight of a refugee does not end with escape from persecution. Refugees frequently have nothing but their lives to bring into a new country. Most refugees would love to return to their homelands, but this is often impossible. Absent a dramatic change in conditions at home, refugees have few choices.

I am proud that the United States leads the world in one of those choices: refugee resettlement. From its founding, America has been the dream destination for the world's oppressed peoples, and that dream endures today. I want to applaud the determination of the State Department to resettle as many as 50,000 refugees this year—a significant increase over recent annual totals. I look forward to working with the State Department for the rest of this year and into the next, to return our refugee resettlement program to its historical averages and preserve America's commitment to the world's most vulnerable people.

Some might say "Why should we bother?" Some might ask why the United States should play such a role. But such questions are ultimately short-sighted. America's principles are never better upheld than when we assist the oppressed. American's image is nowhere better polished than in the minds of refugees who receive our assistance. And no, the United States cannot solve every refugee problem, so it should be clear that America's interests are well-served by setting an example for the rest of the world to follow.

There is much work to be done. Hundreds of thousands of refugees are fleeing the Darfur region of Sudan. They stream into Chad bringing nothing with them and finding little across the border. Within a few months, the region has become the world's most acute humanitarian crisis. The United States has already directed millions of dollars in emergency funds to this region, and as we find additional ways to respond, I hope the international community will commit itself to assisting these refugees.

In similar fashion, I hope that the international community will not allow discussions of nuclear weapons to obscure the plight of thousands of North Koreans who have fled into northeast China. Not only are they living testimonies to the brutality of the regime of Kim Jong-il, they remind us that sometimes refugees are forced to trade one set of horrors for another.

China must stop forcibly repatriating North Koreans and should allow the international community to provide assistance to these people.

In other parts of the world, refugees find safe haven in camps where they await a change of conditions at home or some other long-term resolution of their exiled status. While camps are intended to be way stations, however, they too often become warehouses. Seven million of the world's 12 million refugees have lived in camps or segregated settlements for more than 10 years. Think of that: seven million people who have each forfeited a decade of human potential. The international community never intended that it be this way. The 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol—signed by the United States—give refugees the right to be recognized before the law, to move freely, to earn a living, and to own property. But in many cases, these rights are not respected and the loss of human potential endures.

There are no easy solutions to the warehousing problem, but such treatment is unacceptable. I hope that as we respond to the Darfur situation and others around the world, the State Department and other members of the international community will take steps to ensure that refugees who receive our emergency assistance today will gain opportunities for self-sufficiency tomorrow.

Unfortunately, as long as there is conflict, there will be refugees. But strong United States responses to these humanitarian crises mean more than a dollar figure in the budget. When the United States emphasizes refugee assistance and refugees, it demonstrates a commitment for other nations to emulate. Truly global responses to refugee crises begin here with America's strong, compassionate leadership.

As we mark World Refugee Day 2004 this Sunday, I look forward to extending that leadership in the days ahead, and I hope my colleagues will join me in working on this crucial part of our foreign and humanitarian policy.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE JUNETEENTH FESTIVAL CELEBRATION

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, this week people all across the Nation are engaging in the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery. It was in June of 1865, that the Union soldiers landed in Galveston, TX with the news that the war had ended and that slavery finally had come to an end in the United States. This was 2½ years after the Emancipation Proclamation, which had become official January 1, 1863. This week and specifically on June 19, we celebrate what is known as "Juneteenth Independence Day." It was on this date, June 19, that slaves in the Southwest finally learned of the end of slavery. Although passage of the Thirteenth Amendment in January

1863, legally abolished slavery, many African Americans remained in servitude due to the slow dissemination of this news across the country.

In recognition of Juneteenth, I would like to call my colleagues' attention the Juneteenth Creative Cultural Center and Museum founded in Saginaw, MI by Lula Briggs Galloway on June 19, 2003. The Juneteenth Creative Cultural Center & Museum will be celebrating its first year anniversary with the Juneteenth Independence Day Celebration on Saturday, June 19, 2004, hosted by its founder and volunteers. They are proud to present the "Tuskegee Airmen" and the "Triple Nickles" who will be performing as part of the Juneteenth Independence Day Celebration.

Many years before "black pride" became a popular slogan, a small group of black soldiers gave life and meaning to those words. This is their story. Born within an army that had traditionally relegated blacks to menial jobs and programmed them for failure, the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion, or "Triple Nickles" Succeeded in becoming the Nation's first all-black parachute infantry test platoon, company, and battalion.

The Tuskegee Airmen, a black Army Air Force unit, were dedicated, determined young men who enlisted to become America's first black military airmen, at a time when there were many people who thought that black men lacked intelligence, skill, and courage to become pilots. Although the Tuskegee Airmen flew more than 15,000 combat missions, once home, they had to give up their seats on the bus to Nazi prisoners of war who were being transferred to holding camps.

Since that time, men like Chuck Simms Sr., John Weldon, and Toney Muzon, have continued the legacy for the Triple Nickles and the Tuskegee Airmen. This celebration will honor them, and their fellow soldiers and airmen, who have since passed away.

The Triple Nickles' and the Tuskegee Airmen's families can be proud of their dedication to their country, and their great commitment to honor the values and principles of democracy and freedom. We as a nation have benefitted from the extraordinary contributions—and sacrifices—of these veterans who bravely went off to war, despite turmoil and racism at home.

I am sure that my Senate colleagues join me in recognizing and honoring the Juneteenth Creative Cultural Center and Museum's first year anniversary, and the Juneteenth Independence Day Celebration honoring the Triple Nickles and Tuskegee Airmen veterans.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Madam 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