

We talk about the profits of the drug companies. I am not here to carry any water for the drug companies, but I have been a businessman long enough to know that profits that show up on a balance sheet or a profit-and-loss statement do not automatically go immediately into the pockets of the Donald Trumps and the Warren Buffetts of the world. Profits get retained in companies. There is an accounting term for it called retained earnings.

What do companies do with those retained earnings? They invest them in research. It takes roughly \$1 billion to determine whether a new idea for a drug will produce a drug that works. A company has to have enough financial strength that it can put \$1 billion into research to produce one drug.

That is expensive enough. You can spend millions of dollars on a drug that does not work before you know it is not going to work. So the amount of profits they will make on the drugs that do work not only have to recover the cost that it took for the drug that does work, but it has to recover the millions again and again for the drugs that do not work.

To suggest there is a silver bullet to the rising health care costs, and that the silver bullet can be found in beating up the drug companies and buying drugs from Canada, is to demonstrate vast ignorance of the way the free market really works.

Let me make, again, the standard statement that I make over and over in the campaign. I am not questioning the patriotism of my friends across the aisle. I am questioning their wisdom and their judgment and their decisions, but I am not questioning their patriotism. We hear that over and over again.

Finally, we hear the drug benefit that was passed in this body denigrated again and again on the Democratic side of the aisle, the do-nothing program, the program that did not do anything for senior citizens, and the cry that has gone out to the point that I find many of my constituents believe this program is so complicated that nobody can figure it out, and nobody can get any benefit from it.

Senator HATCH and I put together a series of town meetings across our State. We gathered seniors. We said: Here is how it works. We walked them through how to get on the Internet and order drugs. Then we said: If this is too complicated for you, you are not Internet friendly. Get your grandchild to get on the Internet, and they can make it work. If you do not have a grandchild who can make it work, call 1-800-Medicare, and the person who answers the phone will get on the Internet for you and make it work.

We took seniors out of the audience, asked what drugs they are currently taking, then, on the Internet, we checked it. They came back and said: We are going to save 45 to 50 percent of our drug costs, and this was easy. This was simple.

Talk about misleading the American people. Those who stand in the Senate

at a high decibel rate attacking this bill are misleading the American people. Senator HATCH and I found with our constituents this program is easy to deal with. It will save up to half of your drug costs right now, and it is the law. You do not have to wait for an election or for an eruption to have this come to pass.

I hope my friends on the other side of the aisle will not be offended when I disagree with them when they say: The President has lied. The President has misled. That is election year rhetoric that we should learn to ignore, and spend our time on the reality, which is this Congress, under this President, has, in fact, done significant things. And if we will just level with the American people as to what we have done, they will find that it is easy to navigate, and it will produce significant financial benefit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Utah. His comments are right on. When I have an hour or two I will be happy to explain my strenuous opposition to this issue of importation of pharmaceuticals from countries that can very much harm our patients in America.

ANTI-JEWISH SENTIMENT IN EUROPE

Mr. SANTORUM. Today, as I come forward—and Senator BROWBACK will be joining me in a few minutes—as we enter into Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish new year, a time of reflection for the Jewish people, I thought it would be appropriate to reflect upon the state of affairs with respect to Jewry around the world and the frightening rise in anti-Semitism we have seen in many parts of the world, and I argue, unfortunately, even in this country.

Senator BROWBACK will talk about a different aspect than I, and there will be some speakers tomorrow morning during morning business who will cover various other aspects of this problem.

An area I have been particularly concerned about is the rise of anti-Semitism in Europe. As we know, the roots of anti-Semitism in various parts of Europe are very deep, and we have seen the horrific consequences of that within the last century. It is important, as a result, to keep a very close, watchful eye on any precursors to what could be another tragic, horrific situation occurring on that continent.

There is a rabbi, Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, who said—and this quote, to me, is quite telling—“Let it not be said of us that we saw the tiny flame but did not put it out until it became a raging fire.” I think that is one of our duties and responsibilities as the leader of the free world, in our diplomatic bodies around the world and through diplomatic channels country to country, to use our good offices in America to make sure we are watchful, and we do more than just watch idly,

to call attention to situations which are of concern to us as freedom-loving people and as people who put first among our freedoms the freedom of conscience.

The freedom of religion is the fundamental and first of our freedoms because all freedoms flow from that. If you do not have the freedom to believe what you want to believe, then freedom of speech is a meaningless freedom, freedom of assembly is a meaningless freedom. So this is the first of the freedoms, and it is one that we believe, as Americans, very strongly.

We believe, as the President says, that liberty, that basic freedom is the right of all people given by God. Yet we see, in Europe in particular, a growing and rising tension in the world, in that continent.

I submit for the RECORD recent incidents of anti-Semitism in Europe, just in this year, the year 2004. I will go through and pick one incident from each of the countries I will talk about. Unfortunately, on this list—which is about 5 pages long—almost half of the incidents occurred in France. I have had meetings with the French Ambassador on this issue and expressed concerns about religious freedom and expressed concerns, via correspondence and meetings, about anti-Semitism. Yet this is a growing problem in this region of the world. But it is not only in France.

This first example is of a situation in France. This is a situation where we have the World War II memorial to Jewish soldiers in Lyon, where you have swastikas painted on the memorial.

You have instance after instance—and I think there are, as I said, 5½ pages of this document that I will be submitting for the RECORD—talking about anti-Semitic activity, whether it is graffiti or turning over tombstones, destroying graves, whether it is vandalism of synagogues, or whether it is assaults on Jewish children, particularly in school and coming from religious schools. We are seeing it more and more and more.

We need to understand this is not a problem that will go away if we ignore it. This is a problem which we have to speak up on and bring attention to.

In Belgium, four Jewish teenagers, all students from the same school in an Antwerp suburb, were attacked by a group of 15 men. One of the Jewish students was stabbed in the back and seriously injured. Again, an attack, in this case, by “youth of Arab origin.”

In the Czech Republic, some 80 tombstones were overturned in a Jewish cemetery in Hranice in the east of the Czech Republic.

In Austria, a Holocaust memorial was desecrated, with the word “lie” spray painted over a historical plaque. This memorial near Vienna is at the site of a former concentration camp.

In Germany, in Dusseldorf, vandals sprayed swastikas and SS symbols on at least 40 gravestones at a Jewish cemetery.

In Hungary, a Jewish cemetery in northern Hungary was vandalized. More than 90 gravestones were smashed only weeks after the cemetery had been renovated by the local town council to mark the 60th anniversary of the Holocaust.

In Moldova, vandals threw Molotov cocktails at the synagogue in Tiraspol.

In Poland, in Krakow, police discovered the desecration of a 19th century synagogue. Vandals had painted swastikas on a Star of David hanging from gallows on the Tempel Synagogue.

In Romania, the wall of a Jewish cemetery in northwestern Romania was smeared with swastikas as well as anti-Semitic and fascist slogans.

In Russia, there were several instances of vandalism and an explosion in Debent that shattered several windows in a synagogue in the southern region of Dagestan.

In Ukraine, more than 50 gravestones were vandalized in a Jewish cemetery.

In Great Britain, the British rabbi—I will put up another quote from him—said, “Jews wait anxiously for the next news of a synagogue vandalized, a cemetery desecrated, a Jewish school set on fire, Jews attacked in the streets.”

In London, only a couple months ago, there was an arson attack on a London area synagogue, destroying religious books, including some that had been smuggled out by Jewish refugees fleeing the Nazis. A burning rag was thrown into the South Tottenham United Synagogue.

In Birmingham, just last month, 60 Jewish gravestones were destroyed in a cemetery.

We can go on and on and on.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the full text of this document be printed in the RECORD.

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

RECENT INCIDENTS OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN EUROPE (2004)

AUSTRIA

June 1, 2004.—Villach.—A memorial honoring Holocaust victims in southern Austria, consisting of 17 glass plates engraved with the names of 108 local Holocaust victims, was smashed. The memorial, which was created in 1999, was previously damaged by vandals in March 2003.

January 18, 2004.—Hinterbruehl.—A Holocaust memorial was desecrated, with the word “lie” spray painted over a historical plaque. The memorial near Vienna is at the site of a former concentration camp.

BELGIUM

July 1, 2004.—Antwerp.—In separate incidents, two Jewish men were attacked in the Antwerp area. A Jewish cyclist in Berchem had stones and bottles thrown at him by a group of 15 youths. He escaped injury. In the second attack, a young Jewish man was found bleeding on the street. His attacker was described as “Eastern European origin.” No arrests have been made.

June 24, 2004.—Antwerp.—Four Jewish teenagers, all students from the same school in an Antwerp suburb, were attacked by a group of 15 men described by authorities as “youth of Arab origin.” One of the Jewish students, who was stabbed in the back, was

seriously injured with a punctured lung. In response to the attack, ADL wrote to the Belgian Ambassador urging an investigation.

CZECH REPUBLIC

August 10, 2004.—Hranice.—Some 80 tombstones were overturned at the Jewish cemetery in Hranice in the east of the Czech Republic.

FRANCE

August 26, 2004.—Paris.—The director of the main public library, the Bibliothèque Publique d'Information, announced that anti-Semitic inscriptions were found stamped into a dozen books about the Dreyfus case and legal issues. The vandals stamped the edge of the books with the words “Against the Jewish Mafia and Jewish Racism” with the addresses of a Holocaust denial and Islamic propaganda Web sites.

August 14, 2004.—Paris.—Anti-Semitic graffiti, including a sign saying “death to Jews” and a swastika, was found scrawled on a wall on the grounds of Notre Dame Cathedral. Police are investigating.

August 9, 2004.—Lyon.—Some 60 gravestones were vandalized with swastikas in a Jewish cemetery in Lyon in southeastern France. On August 15, a 24-year-old man turned himself in to Paris police and admitted to desecrating the graves in Lyon. He did not appear to have links to far-right groups and told investigators that he was inspired by a television documentary about American racist groups. A state prosecutor said that the man was inspired by a hatred of Arabs.

July 28, 2004.—Saverne.—Thirty-two tombstones were vandalized with swastikas, Stars of David and satanic “666” symbols in a Jewish cemetery in the Alsatian town of Saverne, north of Strasbourg. The vandalism was discovered by a family member visiting the cemetery.

June 11, 2004.—Rivesaltes.—A Holocaust-era mural painted by Jewish children in a transit camp who were being held before being sent to Nazi death camps, was discovered vandalized in southwestern France. A historian visiting the site, where 4,500 Jews and Gypsies were held, found that the mural had been chiseled off the wall. According to The Independent, in 1942, a Swiss nurse at the camp asked the children to paint a Swiss landscape on the infirmary wall. The painting was discovered in 1999 and was to become the central exhibition of a Holocaust museum at the Rivesaltes transit camp. Half of the inmates of the transit camp, including 400 children, were later killed in Auschwitz. French government officials condemned the incident, and the Interior Minister promised that the mural would be restored.

June 4, 2004.—Epinay-sur-Seine.—A 17-year-old Jewish student was stabbed by a man with a knife shouting “Allahu Aqbar” (G-d is great in Arabic). The student was leaving a Jewish school in the northern Parisian suburbs. The attacker tried to hurt two other students with a screwdriver. The student was in serious, but not critical condition. President Jacques Chirac condemned the attack and the French Interior Minister, Dominique de Villepin, visited the scene.

May 30, 2004.—Boulogne-Billancourt.—A 17-year-old Jewish youth was attacked outside his home in a Paris suburb by a group of young men yelling anti-Semitic slogans. The youth is the son of a local rabbi. President Jacques Chirac condemned the attack.

May 7, 2004.—Villier-le-Bel.—A small explosive device was discovered outside a synagogue north of Paris. According to media reports, the bomb was in a bag with the writing “Boom anti-Jews” and a swastika. On May 14, an 18-year-old man was found guilty of putting the fake bombs on the grounds of the synagogue and was sentenced to two months in prison.

May 6/7, 2004.—Verdun.—A memorial to Jewish soldiers who died in the Battle of Verdun was vandalized. Nazi slogans and symbols were scrawled on the memorial. The Battle of Verdun was fought between French and German armies near the northern French city in 1916.

May 4, 2004.—Paris.—In the suburb of Cretiel, a rabbi and his young son were attacked on their way home from Friday night services.

April 29/30, 2004.—Colmar.—A Jewish cemetery in the Alsace region in eastern France was vandalized. At least 127 headstones were spray painted with swastikas and anti-Semitic statements. The cemetery dates back to the 18th century. The attack was condemned by numerous French officials, including President Jacques Chirac.

April 4, 2004.—Valenciennes.—A synagogue in northern France was defaced with neo-Nazi slogans, including swastikas, and “One people, one empire, one leader, 59 years, sieg heil.” The 59 is believed to be a reference to the 59 years since the death of Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler.

March 23, 2004.—Toulon.—A Jewish synagogue and community center was set on fire. According to media reports, the arsonist broke a window and threw a Molotov cocktail into the building. There was minor damage and no injuries.

January 23, 2004.—Villiers-au-Bois.—Two gravestones marked with Stars of David were damaged in the World War I cemetery of Villiers-au-Bois near the English Channel coast.

January 20, 2004.—Strasbourg.—A parked minibus used to transport children to a Jewish school in the eastern French city of Strasbourg was burned. Police are investigating the attack as an arson.

January 20, 2004.—Strasbourg.—Police reported that a group of assailants hurled stones at the door of a Strasbourg synagogue.

January 20, 2004.—Paris.—A Jewish teenager was injured in an attack by Muslim youths at an ice-skating rink. The youths shouted anti-Semitic insults at the 15-year old boy before kicking him in the head and jaw with ice skates.

GERMANY

August 15, 2004.—Berlin.—A Jewish monument was smeared with a swastika. Police are investigating.

July 22, 2004.—Hagen.—A fifteen-year old boy, along with two others, threatened visitors to a synagogue with a knife, and made anti-Semitic remarks. The visitors were leaving the synagogue at around 7 p.m. when they were confronted by the boys.

June 25, 2004.—Dusseldorf.—Vandals sprayed swastikas and SS symbols on at least 40 gravestones at a Jewish cemetery.

HUNGARY

July 21, 2004.—Debrecen.—Vandals defaced a Holocaust memorial with swastikas in the eastern Hungarian city of Debrecen. Police are investigating.

July 1, 2004.—Gyongyos.—A Jewish cemetery in northern Hungary was vandalized. More than 90 gravestones were smashed just weeks after the cemetery had been renovated by the local town council to mark the 60th anniversary of the Holocaust.

MOLDOVA/TRANSNISTRIAN REPUBLIC

May 5, 2004.—Tiraspol.—Vandals threw Molotov cocktails at the synagogue in Tiraspol.

POLAND

June 13, 2004.—Krakow.—Police discovered the desecration of a 19th century synagogue. Vandals had painted swastikas and a Star of David hanging from gallows on the Tempel Synagogue.

ROMANIA

August 20, 2004.—Cluj—The wall of a Jewish cemetery in northwestern Romania was smeared with swastikas as well as anti-Semitic and fascist slogans.

RUSSIA

April 15/16, 2004.—Pyatigorsk—Fourteen tombstones were vandalized in a Jewish cemetery. The cemetery had been previously attacked in June 2003.

March 29, 2004.—St. Petersburg—The city's only kosher restaurant had its windows broken by vandals.

February 15, 2004.—St. Petersburg—Vandals desecrated about 50 graves in a Jewish cemetery, painting swastikas and anti-Semitic graffiti on headstones. Police are investigating.

January 27, 2004.—Derbent—An explosion shattered several windows in a synagogue in Derbent in the southern region of Dagestan.

UKRAINE

May 23, 2004.—Kiev—More than 50 grave-stones were vandalized in a Jewish cemetery. According to the chief rabbi of Kiev, headstones were broken and heavy old stones were thrown about. Ukrainian Interior Ministry spokesman Viktor Korchinsky denied any acts of vandalism, saying the graves were destroyed "all by themselves, because they were too old."

March 23/24, 2004.—Odessa—Vandals broke several windows of the Osipova Street Synagogue. No one was injured.

UNITED KINGDOM

August 21/22, 2004.—Birmingham—Sixty Jewish gravestones were destroyed in the Witton cemetery. Community officials reported that stickers with the logo of the neo-Nazi National Front were found on some of the stones.

June 18, 2004.—London—A "suspicious fire" damaged the synagogue and headquarters of Aish Ha Torah, a Jewish educational group, in Hendon. Two Torah scrolls were torn and desecrated in the attack and the synagogue and offices suffered serious smoke damage.

June 17, 2004.—London—An arson attack on a London area synagogue destroyed religious books, including some that had been smuggled out by Jewish refugees fleeing the Nazis. A burning rag was thrown into the south Tottenham United Synagogue.

Mr. SANTORUM. But what we see here is a very troubling trend in an area of the world which has been, unfortunately, a hotbed for this kind of behavior which has led to horrific consequences. We have an obligation, particularly in this region of the world, to point out to the governments of those countries the importance of making sure that religious liberty is respected, and religious liberty of all faiths, but in particular any kind of rise or any kind of motion toward a return to a horrific time in the world's history.

This is one of the reasons I wanted to get up and talk today. I think it is important that we bring attention to this issue, as well as the broader issue of anti-Semitism.

Later, we will hear people talk about the acceptance—it is almost incredible to believe—the acceptance of anti-Semitic behavior at our colleges and universities here in the United States of America, as well as a whole host of problems.

Mr. President, I see my time is up. I know the Senator from Kansas is here. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I thank my colleague from Pennsylvania for addressing the topic of anti-Semitism and anti-Israelism expanding in the world. I have comments to add to this issue as well.

This is a disheartening development that is taking place. We are seeing it. It is being documented. I say to my colleagues, if they are interested, I have "The Rise of Anti-Israelism & Anti-Semitism," by Dr. Gary Tobin, Dr. Alexander Karp, and others. It is a good 2, 2½ inches thick, documenting what is taking place in the world today. It is full of pictures and leaflets that are being distributed. Some of them are ghastly to look at. I do not want to show them on the Senate floor because they are so dark and evil and diabolical. But I think it is something for people to be able to see the documentation.

When I first heard about this developing, I said this can't really take place now. We are 60 years out from Auschwitz. That is close enough. People are still alive who experienced this. Surely this does not happen in the world today. Yet it does. We need to identify it as evil and dark and wrong and castigate it and tell people this is wrong and stand up against it. And it is, unfortunately, well documented about what is taking place.

I particularly thank my colleague Senator VOINOVICH for his tireless work in promoting the Global Anti-Semitism Review Act of 2004 and pushing to identify and get at the roots of the issue.

In his book titled "Never Again? The Threat of the New Anti-Semitism," National Director of the Anti-Defamation League, Abraham Foxman, likens anti-Semitism to a disease. He says:

Like many diseases, it spreads from person to person. It can be inherited—not genetically, of course, but through the malign impact of a bigoted adult on his or her children and grandchildren. It can lie dormant within an individual, sowing symptoms only in times of stress. And at times when a community is vulnerable, it can spread rapidly, causing an outbreak that is equivalent to an epidemic.

We cannot tolerate further spread of this epidemic. Many of us here associate anti-Semitism with the hatred of Jews that hit Europe in the 1930s and escalated to the genocidal measures of Adolph Hitler and the Nazis. However, as President Bush stated in a recent speech:

... Anti-Semitism is not a problem of the past; the hatred of Jews did not die in a Berlin bunker. ... The demonization of Israel, the most extreme anti-Zionist rhetoric can be a flimsy cover for anti-Semitism, and contribute to an atmosphere of fear in which synagogues are desecrated, people are slandered, [and] folks are threatened. ...

This hatred of Israel and her people continues, endorsed and propagated by many states and their leaders.

In a time when we are concerned about terrorism and security, some

might question the need to focus on a problem like anti-Semitism. The issues of terrorism and anti-Semitism are inseparably married, wedded by their intolerable hatred of Israel and Jews. They are joined together by their disgust for defenders of peace and democracy. The eerie and lasting relationship of state-sponsored terrorism and state-sponsored anti-Semitism is destroying hope of peace for future generations.

In the book I just referenced, the authors state:

Terrorism has clearly been chosen and relied upon as a primary tactic by the world's most vehement anti-Israelists and anti-Semites: despotic Arab dictatorships. Syria, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Palestine are all led by those who have chosen to use fear and terror to weaken Israeli resolve.

In the State Department's Pattern of Global Terrorism report released in 2001, it certifies that:

Iran's involvement in terrorist-related activities remained focused on support for groups opposed to Israel and peace between Israel and its neighbors. ... Supreme Leader Khamenei continued to refer to Israel as a 'cancerous tumor' that must be removed. ...

The most recent report states that:

During 2003, Iran maintained a high-profile role in encouraging anti-Israeli activity, both rhetorically and operationally. ... Iran provided Lebanese Hizballah and Palestinian rejectionist groups—notably Hamas, the Palestine Islamic Jihad, and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command—with funding, safe-haven, training, and weapons.

That is from our own State Department.

In Foxman's book, he reiterates the trend of state-sponsored terrorism taking a more religious approach:

So today, thanks to the propaganda of a number of fundamentalist Islamic clerics, supported by Arab leaders in many countries, the Arab-Israeli conflict has been transformed from a nationalist struggle into a religious one. When Palestinian suicide bombers go out on their deadly missions, they wrap themselves not in the banner of the Palestinian Authority but in the green and white flag of Islam. When terrorists record videotapes to inspire their followers and frighten their opponents, they don't talk about demands for land or autonomy, they talk about religious martyrdom and about their wish to kill Jews.

We are living in a critical period of history. The war for civilization—and our very way of life—is being fought not only in Baghdad and Kabul, but it is being fought in Jerusalem as well, and has been for a long time. This battle pits democracy against totalitarianism. It pits freedom against subjugation. It pits a culture that values life against a culture willing to throw it away with neither remorse nor regret.

While the global war on terror is our common cause now, peace and reconciliation are our actual objectives. Through time immemorial, the people of Israel have simply sought and taught of peace; of a time when swords would be beaten into plowshares; and children would be taught of war no

more. When the lion would lay down with the lamb and there would be no more tears. Yet today we are beset with hostilities. Nations are embracing terrorism. Hatreds exist without reason.

Peace and truth go together. We must speak of peace with all who embrace peace and speak the truth about those who do not. Evil must be identified for what it is and once exposed to the sunlight of the truth, will waken, whither and fall. Terrorism and anti-Semitism are evil and must be rejected by all civilized people and every nation. Terrorism is practiced on the innocent and anti-Semitism on the vulnerable, and they are tools of dark souls. Those that employ these means must be confronted and renounced by all humanity.

Let us call on Syria and Iran, Sudan and North Korea to embrace the nobility of their heritage and renounce terrorism and anti-Semitism. Immunity from the wrath of hatred is impossible, but inoculation from the spread of this disease to future generations is both possible and necessary.

I yield the floor.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, morning business is closed.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 4567, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4567) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Nelson (FL) Amendment No. 3607, to provide funds for the American Red Cross.

Corzine Amendment No. 3619, to appropriate an additional \$100,000,000 to enhance the security of chemical plants.

Mikulski Amendment No. 3624, to increase the amount appropriated for firefighter assistance grants.

Kennedy Amendment No. 3626, to require the President to provide to Congress a copy of the Scowcroft Commission report on improving the capabilities of the United States intelligence community.

Dayton Amendment No. 3629, to ensure the continuation of benefits for certain individuals providing security services for Federal buildings.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, the Senate has made progress on this bill. We hope to continue to consider amendments during the remainder of the session today. The leader would like us to complete action on this bill tonight. I hope we can achieve that goal. If we can't, we can go into the next day and try to complete action before noon on Wednesday. But we hope we can complete action today. We urge Senators who have amendments, suggestions for changes in the bill, to come to the floor. We will consider those amendments and deal with them in an orderly way. We hope we can reject most of them. There are some we can agree to.

I see my good friend from Connecticut is on the floor and has an amendment. I am happy to yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to lay the pending amendment aside.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 3630

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I send an amendment on behalf of myself and Senator SPECTER to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Connecticut [Mr. DODD], for himself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DASCHLE, and Mr. SCHUMER, proposes an amendment numbered 3630.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that further reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To increase the amount provided for fire department staffing assistance grants; and to provide offsets)

On page 21, between lines 20 and 21, insert the following:

FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFFING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For necessary expenses for programs authorized by section 34 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2229a), to remain available until September 30, 2006, \$100,000,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed 5 percent of this amount shall be available for program administration: *Provided, further*, That the amount appropriated by title I under the heading "OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MANAGEMENT" is hereby reduced by \$70,000,000, the amount appropriated by title IV under the heading "INFORMATION ANALYSIS AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION" is hereby reduced by \$20,000,000, and the amount appropriated by title IV under the heading "SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION" is hereby reduced by \$10,000,000.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I am offering this amendment dealing with the SAFER Act. This is the No. 1 priority of the various firefighting organizations of the United States, whether they be paid firefighters, volunteer

firefighters, fire chiefs organizations, and others. On behalf of Senators SPECTER, LEVIN, HARKIN, KENNEDY, SARBANES, DASCHLE, SCHUMER, and myself, we offer this important amendment.

I want to take a few minutes, with the full recognition that my friend and colleague from Mississippi wants to move matters along. I will take as little time as I can to explain this amendment and what we are trying to do, why I think it is a worthwhile amendment, how we pay for it, and why I don't feel that the offset we are suggesting here in any way would be detrimental to the Department of Homeland Security.

Our amendment will help the 33,000 fire departments across America—paid departments, volunteer departments, and combination departments. It will help them acquire the necessary personnel they need in order to fight fires and respond to situations all across the country, particularly terrorist incidents and other large-scale emergencies that may emerge.

Just yesterday, I spent a couple of hours with the fire department of Enfield, CT. I went out on one of the calls—a traffic accident. It turned out not to be a serious emergency, but the first vehicles to actually respond to the situation were the fire departments of Enfield. That happens every single day in this country. I think one firehouse in Enfield—one of five—has some 1,200 calls they respond to each year, to give you an idea of the magnitude of emergencies these departments are called upon to respond to every day of the year, all hours of the day and night.

Mr. President, this amendment is the single most important legislative priority of the International Association of Firefighters. It is also strongly supported by the International Association of Fire Chiefs and the National Volunteer Fire Council. If our colleagues support firefighters—and I know many, if not all, do—this is an opportunity to support bipartisan legislation that will make a huge difference in the personnel area of a fire department.

In particular, this amendment provides \$100 million for the SAFER Act, which stands for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response. It was enacted last year with significant bipartisan support as part of the fiscal year 2004 Department of Defense Authorization Act. In fact, the lead sponsors at that time were Senator WARNER of Virginia, Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, along with Senators SARBANES, DASCHLE, SNOWE, CLINTON, CORZINE, DURBIN, JOHNSON, KERRY, LANDRIEU, MURRAY, REED, and SCHUMER.

The House of Representatives also has championed very similar, if not exact, legislation. It has been supported by the Chairman of the House Science Committee, SHERWOOD BOEHLERT of New York; Republican Congressman CURT WELDON, a tremendous champion of firefighters for many