

HONORING TERRENCE M.  
McDERMOTT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a constituent, Terrence M. McDermott, executive vice president and chief executive officer of the National Association of Realtors, and congratulate him on his retirement.

Born and raised on the West Side of Chicago, Mr. McDermott attended Loyola University in Chicago and the National College of Education in Evanston, IL.

Before serving as CEO for the National Association of Realtors, Mr. McDermott gained nearly 30 years of experience in publishing and media. He also served as the executive vice president and chief executive officer of the American Institute of Architects and on the board of the American Architectural Foundation.

In addition to his many professional accomplishments, Mr. McDermott possesses a lifelong love of politics instilled by his family. Politics were routinely discussed around the dinner table, and Mr. McDermott worked as a volunteer on Senator Paul Douglas's last campaign before he could even vote.

Mr. McDermott is also an avid hunter and fisherman and plans to spend his retirement expanding his extensive decoy collection. Mr. McDermott and his wife Sue Ann recently celebrated their 39th anniversary and have two children, Matthew and Patricia.

I congratulate Mr. McDermott on his many accomplishments throughout his long and successful career, and I wish him many more years of happiness and accomplishment in retirement.

EXTENSION OF THE HIGHER  
EDUCATION ACT

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I rise today to encourage my colleagues to pass H.R. 3784, which would provide for a temporary extension of the Higher Education Act of 1965. As my colleagues are aware, the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions approved legislation unanimously that would reauthorize Federal higher education programs for another 6 years. However, as many of these programs will expire on September 30, it is important that we extend the programs authorized by this act until the Congress can successfully complete work on the reauthorization legislation.

I am pleased to have been able to report that legislation with a unanimous vote out of committee. I am hopeful that the Senate will take action on that legislation quickly, either in the context of budget reconciliation or on its own, and that we can continue the commitment of Congress to support the access and affordability of higher education in this country.

HIGHER EDUCATION ACT  
EXTENSION

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, while I recognize that the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, HELP, is overwhelmed in addressing the needs associated with the Hurricane Katrina recovery, the Higher Education Act, HEA, is set to expire on September 30, 2005. I am concerned that with the extension of the HEA until December 31, 2005, we may be sending a signal that we are not planning on acting on the HEA reauthorization bill in the near future. I would like to know if my friend, the chairman of the HELP Committee, could give me his assurance he still intends to make passage of the permanent reauthorization a priority in the next few weeks?

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, in response to that question, I would like to assure my colleague from Utah that the HELP Committee intends to keep this a high priority and we are hopeful of having a bill signed into law before December 31, 2005.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I would like to thank the chairman for that confirmation.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT NEEDS  
OUR HELP

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I have been a strong supporter of the Community Oriented Policing Services, or COPS, program since its creation in 1994. Nationwide, the COPS program has awarded more than \$11 billion in grants, resulting in the hiring of 118,000 additional police officers. In Michigan, 514 local and State law enforcement agencies have received more than \$220 million in grants through the COPS program. These grants have improved the safety of communities by putting more than 3,300 law enforcement officers on Michigan streets.

In the past month alone, the COPS program has awarded nearly \$2 million in grants to Michigan communities. One COPS grant program, the Secure Our Schools Initiative, recently awarded more than \$1 million in grants to nine Michigan communities to provide enhanced security for public schools. These grants help our schools pay for security assessments, security training for students and personnel and the installation of metal detectors, locks, lighting, and other important security measures. Another COPS grant program, the Tribal Resources Grant Program, awarded more than \$800,000 in grants to eight Native-American communities in Michigan. These funds will strengthen the police departments in these communities by helping tribes hire and train police officers and modernize their equipment. COPS grants like these are critical to Michigan communities that are working to prevent and respond to violent crimes, especially those involving guns.

Unfortunately, authorization for the COPS program was permitted to expire

at the end of fiscal year 2000. Although the program has survived through the annual appropriations process, it has received significant funding cuts under this administration. In fact, the fiscal year 2005 Omnibus Appropriations Act included only \$606 million for the COPS program, \$142 million below the amount appropriated in 2004. During consideration of the fiscal year 2006 Commerce-Justice-Science appropriations bill last week, I supported an amendment that would have provided \$1 billion for the COPS program. Unfortunately, this amendment was defeated and the majority in the Senate voted to cut the COPS program further to \$515 million for fiscal year 2006.

I have cosponsored the COPS Reauthorization Act introduced by Senator BIDEN. This bill would continue the COPS program for another 6 years at a funding level of \$1.15 billion per year. This funding would allow State and local governments to hire an additional 50,000 police officers over the next 6 years. In addition, the bill would modernize the COPS program by authorizing \$350 million in Law Enforcement Technology Grants to assist police departments in acquiring new technologies for the analysis of crime data and the examination of DNA evidence, among other uses. The COPS Reauthorization Act would also build upon the accomplishments of the original COPS program by authorizing \$200 million in Community Prosecutor Grants. These grants would be used to hire community prosecutors trained to work at the local and neighborhood level to prevent crime and improve relations with residents.

The increased threat of terrorism as well as the continuing epidemic of gun violence underscores the need to devote more resources for our law enforcement agencies. The safety and security of our communities depends upon our local police departments, most often the first responders, being adequately staffed, trained, and equipped. I hope the Senate will do more to support the efforts of our local law enforcement officials by adequately funding programs such as COPS.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT  
ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. Each Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate crimes legislation that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

On August 1, 2004, a man was shot with a pellet gun in the back near his home in Bronx, NY. The apparent motivation for the attack was the man's sexual orientation.

I would note that recently in the House hate crimes legislation was passed in a bipartisan vote. I strongly believe that we must also move similar legislation in the Senate. In the months ahead, I look forward to working with Senator KENNEDY as we continue our work in passing a hate crimes bill.

IN HONOR OF FORMER SENATOR  
CLAIBORNE PELL

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor our former colleague Claiborne Pell, with whom I had the pleasure of serving in this body for 16 years.

I have always felt a special affinity for Senator Pell. Both of our fathers served in Congress. We represented neighboring States in the Northeast. We sat together on three committees and share many of the same views and principles about our great Nation and its role in the world. And, he was one of the few Senators who served with both my father and me. So it is with great personal pleasure that I come to the floor to honor him today.

Senator Pell accomplished important things during his Senate career, each one of which could have defined a successful tenure for any one Senator. He created a Federal college scholarship initiative—later to be named the “Pell Grant” in his honor. This initiative has opened the doors of our colleges and universities to millions of American students. He coauthored legislation to establish the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, both of which have enriched the cultural life of our Nation. He helped to establish the Northeast rail corridor. And he was a chief architect of the ban on nuclear testing on the ocean floor.

Throughout 36 years of service, Senator Pell left a graceful and indelible legacy. His commitment to education, the arts and humanities, and peace was an attempt to cultivate the best in all of us. And we have advanced as a nation in part because of his dedication to these ideals and his success in codifying them.

Almost as admirable as his legislative accomplishments was the manner in which he legislated. In the 16 years that I served alongside Senator Pell, even when he was the ranking member of the Foreign Relations Committee under the chairmanship of a hard-charging Senator from the other end of the political spectrum, I never saw him speak or act with anything but kindness and integrity. In the course of six elections to the U.S. Senate, Senator Pell never once attacked a political opponent who ran against him. He was a true gentleman. He always sought out the better nature of people through discussion and debate. He held immense respect for the history of the Senate and the vocation of public service. He was the model of what a leader should be.

Paying tribute to his tremendous career is reason enough to come to the floor today, but I have also come to speak on a more timely matter. Senator Pell is to be recognized this Friday by a regimental review at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in Connecticut.

Senator Pell served in the Coast Guard for 37 years, enlisting 4 months before the attacks on Pearl Harbor. He began as a ship’s cook, but quickly received his commission and served as a lieutenant on boats in the North Atlantic and Sicily. During World War II, he was arrested six times by enemy governments. After the war ended, he served as a captain in the Reserves until he reached the mandatory retirement age.

Senator Pell frequently cited his service as one of the defining moments in his life. He has always been an ardent supporter of the Coast Guard—believing, as I do, that it plays a vital role in keeping America safe. As the Coast Guard honors Senator Pell’s service this week, it is important that we remember the Coast Guard personnel who continue to risk their lives to maintain the safety and security of our Nation.

Over the past few weeks, Coast Guard crews, operating with characteristic precision and professionalism, have rescued over 33,000 people in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. They have spent significant sums to do so—sums that were never contemplated to be spent for this purpose. Regrettably, however, none of the over \$60 billion in aid that Congress recently sent to the Gulf coast region has been specifically set aside to replenish Coast Guard accounts. Their costs in both operations and reconstruction are estimated in the hundreds of millions of dollars. They are being forced to divert funds from continuing and future operations.

The men and women of today’s Coast Guard are certainly vindicating Senator Pell’s faith in and commitment to this branch of our military. By honoring their service—including by seeing to it that Coast Guard operations are fully supported by our Government—we honor the service of an outstanding leader, a great patriot, and a dear friend: Claiborne Pell. I wish him, his wife Nuala, and his family my best wishes on this wonderful occasion.

PAUL BRUHN: PRESERVING  
VERMONT FOR ALL GENERATIONS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure today to congratulate Paul Bruhn and the Preservation Trust of Vermont on an anniversary that marks 25 successful years of protecting and celebrating Vermont’s historical treasures.

I am proud to be able to call Paul not only an accomplished Vermonter but also a very good friend. He was my first campaign manager and my first chief of staff, and the Preservation Trust of Vermont is only one of his significant gifts to the Green Mountain State.

Paul became the founding executive director of the Preservation Trust of Vermont in 1980, after helping me find my way through the Senate during my first term. Since then he has helped the Preservation Trust save countless architectural treasures in every corner of the State, helped reinvent communities that had eroded through years of neglect, and helped our State capitalize on its unique identity. Thanks in large part to his leadership, the Preservation Trust of Vermont has been a respected, appreciated, and integral part of Vermont’s culture for the past quarter century.

My wife Marcelle and I consider ourselves highly fortunate to call Paul a close personal friend. Before my campaign in 1974, we saw in Paul attributes that we knew would bring Vermont wonderful things. As the consummate connector, Paul has been a humble servant of the public interest, forging and leading broad community coalitions to overcome some of the most difficult growing pains of development—retaining a community’s character. He has used these talents to bring attention to and preserve the most unique and defining aspects of Vermont. From making sure Vermont music legend Sterling Weed had a band stand, to bringing attention to the wonderful architecture at the St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, he has helped VermonTERS embrace their unique spirit and storied history.

Paul has always understood that a community’s future vitality is directly linked to its past. When the city of Burlington was preparing to level the historic firehouse on Church Street—one of the most beautiful and unique buildings in the city—it was Paul who convinced me to open my first Senate office there to save the building from the wrecking ball. Years later, as historic downtowns across the country were being shuttered and demolished because of urban sprawl, Paul helped me work with local and State officials to find millions of dollars in Federal investments to revolutionize Burlington’s historic center of commerce, turning Church Street into an award-winning pedestrian marketplace. Today the historic facades that have hung over Church Street for a century or more remind shoppers of Burlington’s rich history.

There is hardly a nook or cranny, village or gore, throughout Vermont that has not felt the touch of Paul and the Preservation Trust of Vermont. Whether through a small Preservation Trust grant for the refinishing of a church tower, or through a multimillion dollar campaign led by Paul and the talented people he works with, every corner of the State from Burke to Bennington has benefited from Paul’s community- and consensus-building.

Just last year, this native Vermonter was at the heart of an effort to have the entire State of Vermont designated as one of the top 10 endangered places by the National Preservation Trust. It