

own tax preparation software and e-filing program at the taxpayers' expense. Such a program would have needlessly duplicated the resources and investments of the private sector. Instead, the Free File Alliance came into being, helping preserve voluntary compliance.

This Alliance provides free electronic tax preparation and e-filing services to lower income, disadvantaged and underserved taxpayers. In its first 3 years of existence, the Free File Alliance has donated some 10 million tax returns to American taxpayers and has helped significantly increase the number of e-filed tax returns. The success of this unique public-private partnership has been achieved at no cost to the taxpayers.

This alliance has benefited the American public. It has allowed the IRS to focus its resources and efforts on its congressionally authorized mission and objectives. The budget simply does not have room for waste or duplication, and the Free File public-private partnership has met an urgent need in the most cost-effective way possible.

There are long-standing program management issues that need to be corrected in the IRS oversight of the Free File program. For the first 3 years, the Service failed to make necessary management reforms. Congress has provided specific direction in terms of taxpayer protections, but the needed reforms have still not been put in place.

This amendment is fully consistent with all of the previous Congressional direction. It provides that the IRS and the Department of Treasury do not waiver from this direction. It will also ensure that the IRS does not provide all aspects of tax functions, including tax preparation services. That kind of conflict of interest cannot ever be permitted. The American people expect us to look out for their interests in such matters, to ensure fairness and balance in the system, and to protect their rights to voluntary compliance.

This amendment and accompanying report language should get the Free File program on track to achieve its intended purposes and objectives, and ensure that the IRS keeps its energies and resources focused on critical core missions, rather than spending precious public funds to try to expand them.

This is a basic good government, taxpayer-focused measure, and I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this amendment.

NOTICE OF INTENT

Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, in accordance with rule V of the standing rules of the Senate, I hereby give notice in writing of my intention to move to suspend Paragraph 4 of Rule XVI for the purpose of proposing to the Bill, H.R. 3058, the Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill, the following amendment: No. 2143.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate turn to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to no more than 10 minutes.

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

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as we pause to observe Breast Cancer Awareness Month, I would like to focus on the need to study the causes of this frightening disease, including the possible link between breast cancer and the environment.

Women diagnosed with breast cancer inevitably all ask the same question: Why me?

The unfortunate truth in all too many instances is, we don't know. Less than 30 percent of breast cancers are explained by known risk factors.

We don't know if the environment plays a role in the development of breast cancer. Studies have explored the effect of isolated environmental factors such as diet, pesticides, and even electromagnetic fields. In most cases, the results have been inconclusive. Furthermore, there are many other factors that are suspected to play a role that have yet to be studied.

We must find answers. While there is much we don't know, it is clear that a better understanding of the role the environment plays in the development of breast cancer could help to improve our understanding of the causes of breast cancer and could lead to prevention strategies.

For several years now, I have worked to pass bipartisan legislation, The Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act, which would give scientists the tools they need to better understand any link between breast cancer and the environment. The Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act would dedicate \$30 million a year for 5 years for the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIEHS, to award grants to study the relationship between environmental factors and breast cancer. Under a competitive, peer-reviewed grant-making process that involves patient advocates, the NIEHS Director would award grants for the development and operation of up to eight centers for the purpose of conducting multi-disciplinary research.

To date, there has been only a limited research investment to study the role of the environment in the development of breast cancer—but we are making progress. Over the past several years, I have worked with my colleagues on the Senate Appropriations Committee to include appropriations language that has allowed the NIEHS to award grants to four research centers to begin to study the prenatal-to-adult environmental exposures that may predispose a woman to breast cancer.

This is a promising step in the right direction, but it is only a down payment on the task at hand. Moreover, the research strategy for these grants does not follow the nationally focused, collaborative, and comprehensive model as outlined in the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act.

More research must be done to determine the impact of the environment on breast cancer. If we miss promising research opportunities because Congress has failed to act, millions of women and their families will face difficult questions about breast cancer . . . and we won't have the answers.

These women and their families deserve answers. That's why we must work together to pass this bill, which enjoys broad bipartisan support. I urge my colleagues to observe Breast Cancer Awareness Month and to support the quest for answers about this deadly disease by supporting the Breast Cancer and Environmental Research Act.

Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, I rise today in observance of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Today, 3 million American women are living with this disease. In 2005, an additional 200,000 women are expected to be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer and over 40,000 will die from this disease. While in recent years we have seen significant advances in breast cancer research, scientists are still researching many questions that remain unanswered regarding the causes and prevention of this disease.

I am particularly concerned about the likely impact that environmental factors have in contributing to the prevalence of breast cancer. That is why I support the bipartisan Breast Cancer Environmental Research Act, S. 757, which would provide \$30 million a year for 5 years for the development and operation of multi-institutional, multi-disciplinary research centers to study environmental factors potentially linked to breast cancer. There is a clear need for research. We owe it to breast cancer survivors and victims to pass this legislation.

Over the past several years, New Jersey has consistently ranked in the top 10 states in the Nation for breast cancer incidence and mortality. That is why I feel especially strongly about supporting further progress and future advancements in the fight against this awful disease that will only continue to cause suffering among American women if we fail to act.

In addition to passing S. 757, we must also increase funding for the National Institutes of Health, NIH, the National Cancer Institute, NCI, and the Centers for Disease Control, CDC, all of which have played a major role in the development of improved treatment. Despite the critical role these agencies play in developing tools to fight and prevent cancer, the President and Republican-led Congress have significantly underfunded breast cancer initiatives at NIH, NCI, and CDC. We need to do more.

We need a collaborative, comprehensive, national strategy to study the etiology of breast cancer. The Breast Cancer Environmental Research Act would accomplish this. I urge all of my colleagues to observe National Breast Cancer Awareness month by supporting this critical piece of legislation.

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.

John Solis was attacked and beaten after a gay-pride event in Brooklyn, NY on June 29, 2004. A dozen people shouted anti-gay slurs at Solis. When he turned to confront them they attacked him with baseball bats. Solis's wrist was broken and he was hit in the head. The police were slow to respond and ineffective.

I believe that the 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.

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I rise today, as Breast Cancer Awareness Month comes to a close, to urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring S. 757, the Breast Cancer Environmental Research Act.

It has long been believed that the environment plays some role in the development of breast cancer, but the extent of that role is not understood. Today, less than 30 percent of breast cancers are explained by known risk factors. There are studies exploring the effect of things like diet, pesticides, and electromagnetic fields on breast cancer incidence, but in most cases, these and many other environmental factors that are also suspected to play a role have not been fully investigated. We need a collaborative, comprehensive, national strategy to explore these issues.

The Breast Cancer Environmental Research Act would create a uniquely targeted research plan, similar in design to the incredibly efficient Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Breast Cancer Research Program. This bill would authorize \$30 million a year for 5 years for the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIEHS, to award grants to study the relationship between environmental factors and breast cancer. Under a competitive, peer-reviewed grantmaking process that involves patient advocates, the

NIEHS Director would award grants for the development and operation of up to eight centers for the purpose of conducting multidisciplinary research. It would require collaboration with community organizations in the area, including those that represent women with breast cancer, as an integral component of the centers. Inherent in its structure would be the kind of efficiency, and public accountability that has made an overwhelming number of my colleagues, as well as scientists and consumers, so supportive of the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program.

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, I urge my colleagues to join me and continue to fight the war on breast cancer, and invest in getting the answers to eradicating this disease.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BOB SPARBOE

• Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I would like to pay tribute to a Minnesota hero and an American hero, Robert Sparboe, who passed away last week. If anyone around the world wanted to know why this is the greatest country in the world, I would tell them: Take a look at the life of Bob Sparboe. He is proof positive that the surest path to success is working hard in a free society.

Bob Sparboe found his success in the egg business. He went from a \$5,000 investment after the Korean war to a \$260 million operation employing 600 people in four States. If anyone in the sound of my voice has ever eaten an egg in a Midwestern restaurant, you are one of his customers. He has presided over 10 million hens laying over 2 billion eggs a year.

I often wonder from where Americans are getting their values. I sure hope it is not from overhyped rock stars, movie stars, and media creations. One of the values of our State of Minnesota is people are usually only one generation or one set of relations removed from the farm. We learn what farmers know; there are four seasons to life: planting, growing, harvesting, and resting. Not much of value is produced by people who cram. There are seasons and rhythms to life that must be understood and respected.

Bob was a wealth of wisdom. Here are a few of his gems collected from an article written honoring him last year:

The smartest thing you can do is hire someone who is more capable than you are.

It's better to have an average plan with superior execution than a superior plan with average execution.

A good leader creates leaders out of his followers. And a really good leader creates moral agents.

Leadership is about coping with change. Management is about coping with complexity.

You need to adopt the attitude that "I will succeed, not only in spite of my limitations, but because of them."

We get pretty full of ourselves in this city, imagining that we are running the world. But all the success our Nation achieves comes from the hard work, risk taking, and character of regular folks like Bob Sparboe, who achieve beyond their wildest dreams. His life was the American dream incarnate. We offer our condolences to his family and friends. And we are grateful to have had the privilege to know a person of such great character, drive and wisdom.

Mr. President, I ask that the following statement from former United States Senator Rudolph E. Boschwitz be printed in the RECORD.

The statement follows:

Picture a young Bob Sparboe, just back from the Army, his head full of dreams, eager to start his own business eager to make his first deal, and there he was young Bob sitting across the desk from the banker in Litchfield, Minnesota. Bankers always appear in this kind of story as a scowling, unfriendly, bunch of fellows. Bob never commented about that, but he needed \$1,400 for just 21 days. Scowl or not, the banker must have had some doubts. The normal borrower didn't come in for a 21-day loan.

Bob eventually solved the problem by buying the bank—something he never would have believed that day many years ago. He got the loan. He made the deal. And he paid the banker back on time.

His head was full of dreams. And one of the endearing and enduring elements of Bob's life was that he never stopped dreaming. Ambition didn't fade as he aged. And he lived his ever-enlarging dreams to their fullest. Not only with regard to his business, but with his wonderful family as well.

Not everybody knew Bob and I would occasionally introduce him as a man who had six million chickens laying eggs and doing so with regularity. Not too long ago, Bob corrected me to say with quiet pride, "It is now twelve million, Rudy."

Bob and I both admired Ronald Reagan and Reagan would often say, "If you give people enough freedom and opportunity, ordinary people will achieve extraordinary things."

Bob was such a person Bob proved Reagan right. Bob recognized what the promise of America had given him and it filled his heart with a deep and abiding love for this great country. It was in that way—through the political process—that I met Bob and Deanna and other members of their family and the Sparboe Farms family as well.

Some may believe that our country's greatness was achieved by politicians sitting in Washington or St. Paul and indeed it is their names that fill the history books. But they were not the builders. Their actions preserved and enhanced the opportunities and freedoms, but the builders of democracy are and were the Bob Sparboes of our country.

People who had dreams. People who were willing to take risks—even for 21 days—and then never stopped dreaming and working full time to achieve those ever-enlarging dreams.

So Bob will be missed not only by a very loving family, but America will miss Bob as well.

We have lost not only a friend, a father, a husband and grandfather, but America has lost one of the finest builders of its greatness. One of its proudest sons.

Bob Sparboe—an extraordinary life, an extraordinary example of the wonders of democracy.●