

adopted the world's first anti-corruption convention and has developed a multilateral evaluation mechanism on drugs. The OAS has worked on de-mining, peacemaking, and providing scholarships to students. It exemplifies the notion that our best hope for the world is for sovereign states to work together.

The OAS is going through a difficult transition at the moment, but it will emerge even stronger. A new Secretary-General will be chosen this year, and important discussions will be forthcoming at the general assembly in Florida and the fourth Summit of the Americas in Argentina.

We need each other. Let us work together to make our hemisphere the beacon of hope, human dignity, and cooperation for the 21st century.

#### DVT AWARENESS RESOLUTION

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to have joined with my colleague Senator ARLEN SPECTER in submitting a resolution yesterday, S. Res. 56, that would designate March as "Deep-Vein Thrombosis Awareness Month."

Many Americans are probably unfamiliar with deep-vein thrombosis, DVT, but it is a serious medical condition that occurs in approximately 2 million Americans each year. Given that it is both a common and preventable condition, it is important that more of us know about this disease so we can take steps to stop it.

Americans might be more commonly familiar with deep-vein thrombosis as the condition that can result from sitting in a small space, such as an airline seat, for a long period of time. In fact, this condition is sometimes called "economy-class syndrome," and many airlines now encourage their passengers to get up and move around or otherwise exercise their extremities during cross-country or international flights in order to prevent it.

DVT occurs when a blood clot forms in one of the large veins, usually in the legs, leading to either partially or completely blocked circulation. Too often, this blood clot breaks loose from the wall of the vein and moves to the lungs, where it is called a pulmonary embolism and can cause sudden death.

Deep-vein thrombosis can happen to virtually anyone at any time. In fact, one of our Nation's finest journalists, NBC News correspondent David Bloom, died from a pulmonary embolism caused by DVT in April, 2003, while covering the war in Iraq at the early age of 39. But while David Bloom is one of the more well-known victims of DVT, he is not alone. Up to 200,000 die each year from pulmonary embolisms caused by DVT.

The resolution that Senator SPECTER and I submitted yesterday in honor of the memory of David Bloom is an important first step towards educating Americans about this potentially deadly condition. The resolution is supported by the Coalition to Prevent Deep-Vein Thrombosis, which is made up of more than 30 health and medical groups. In addition, David Bloom's be-

loved wife Melanie has become an outspoken advocate for raising awareness about DVT.

I look forward to working with Senator SPECTER, Melanie Bloom, the Coalition to Prevent Deep-Vein Thrombosis, and others to help make more Americans aware of this disease.

#### HONORING THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I am proud to cosponsor legislation to authorize the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal to the Tuskegee Airmen. The Tuskegee Airmen overcame enormous obstacles, including blatant discrimination and racism, to become the first black airmen. Their success paved the way for reform and, ultimately, integration of the United States' Armed Services.

These men stepped forward to defend our Nation against the horrors of Nazi Germany, while continuing to battle racist treatment by their own countrymen. They fought through this unjust treatment because their sense of duty to their country was greater than the obstacles in their path. The recognition of their persistence, courage and allegiance is long overdue.

Of the 1,000 Tuskegee Airmen, 450 served in combat, 66 died in combat, and another 33 were shot down and captured as prisoners of war. The pilots were credited with destroying 261 aircraft, damaging 148 aircraft, and flying 15,553 combat sorties and 1,578 missions over Italy and North Africa. They destroyed or damaged over 950 units of ground transportation and escorted more than 200 bombing missions.

As a result of their heroic actions, members of the Tuskegee Airmen have been awarded three Presidential Unit Citations and 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses and Legions of Merit, in addition to The Red Star of Yugoslavia, 9 Purple Hearts, 14 Bronze Stars and more than 700 air medals and clusters.

I am proud to say that 16 of these airmen were from the State of West Virginia. Several attended West Virginia State University, a university which has graduated more military generals than any other non-military college in the Nation. The 16 West Virginians are listed below.

Alston, William R.  
Carter, John  
Eagleson, Wilson V.  
Gamble, Howard C.  
Gray, George E.  
Hill, William L.  
Johnson, Langdon E.  
Jones, Hubert L.  
Killard, James M., Jr.  
Kydd, George H., III  
Prewitt, Mexion O.  
Roberts, George S.,  
Robinson, Robert L., Jr.  
Thompson, Floyd A.  
Watkins, Edward Wilson  
Whitehead, John L., Jr.

The Tuskegee Airmen have proven their valor and dedication to our coun-

try, and they have earned the Congressional Medal of Honor. It is time that they receive this honor.

#### THE ROLE OF CONGRESS IN SUPPORTING AMERICAN COMPANIES AND WORKERS

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I have come to this floor repeatedly to talk about the ongoing crisis in our domestic manufacturing sector and about ways in which Congress should act to stem the loss of manufacturing jobs and the shuttering of domestic manufacturing companies.

My State of Wisconsin has lost nearly 80,000 good-paying manufacturing jobs since 2000. The country has lost more than 2½ million manufacturing jobs since January 2001, including more than 25,000 jobs last month alone. And this hemorrhaging of jobs shows no signs of stopping.

Much of this job loss can be blamed on the dismal trade policies of recent years, which have contributed to many American companies—some of them household names—moving their operations overseas or shutting their doors entirely. These policies have a ripple effect in the communities that have lost manufacturing plants. The closure of the local plant is felt not only by those who worked there and their families, but by the community as a whole.

Mr. President, Florence, WI is a town in the far northeastern corner of my home State, just a few miles from the border with the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. A few weeks ago, that small community got a sharp introduction to the realities of our country's trade policies. Pride Manufacturing, the world's largest maker of golf tees, announced that it would be closing down its plant in Florence and moving that operation and the hundred or so jobs that go with it to China.

That announcement probably was not noticed by many people outside of my home State—one company in one small community in Wisconsin leaving for China does not raise many eyebrows in Washington or on Wall Street. But it is a serious matter for the families whose livelihood is directly affected by the move. And it will certainly have an impact on the community in which they live. Some families may try to stay, but some may be forced to look elsewhere for jobs. The local school district is already trying to cope with declining enrollment and the challenges of being a largely rural district. The prospect of losing additional families will only make matters worse. Local businesses that relied on the patronage of those families will be hit. Car dealers, grocery stores, hardware stores, clothing stores—everyone in that community will potentially be affected by the loss of Pride Manufacturing.

There are too many stories like this taking place around my State and around our country. There are too many boarded-up factories and too

many parents struggling to make ends meet and to provide for their children after the plant closes and the jobs go to other countries. Congress can and should do more to support these hard-working Americans and their employers. These are the people who are bearing the brunt of the bad trade agreements and other policies that have encouraged companies to close or to leave the United States.

In response to this crisis, this week I am introducing a series of bills intended to support American companies and American workers. These measures alone will not solve this problem, but I believe that they represent a first step in helping to save a core sector of our economy.

My first proposal would set some minimum standards for future trade agreements into which our country enters. It is a break with the so-called NAFTA model and instead advocates the kinds of sound trade policies that will spur economic growth and sustainable development. The major trade agreements into which our country has entered in recent years have resulted in a race to the bottom in labor standards, environmental standards, health and safety standards, in nearly every aspect of our economy. A race to the bottom is a race in which even the winners lose. We should ensure that future trade agreements do not continue down this perilous road.

The principles set forth in this resolution are straightforward and achievable. These principles include: calling for enforceable worker protections, preserving the ability of the United States to enact and enforce its own trade laws, ensuring that foreign investors are not provided with greater rights than those provided under U.S. law, providing that food entering into our country meets domestic food safety standards, and preserving the ability of Federal, State, and local governments to maintain essential public services and to regulate private sector services in the public interest.

Mr. President, my second bill, the Buy American Improvement Act, focuses on the Federal Government's responsibility to support domestic manufacturers and workers. The Buy American Act of 1933 is supposed to ensure that the Federal Government supports domestic companies and workers by buying American-made goods. This is an important law, but it contains a number of loopholes that make it too easy for Government agencies to buy foreign-made goods.

The Buy American Improvement Act would make it harder to waive the Buy American Act. We should ensure that the Federal Government makes every effort to give Federal contracts to companies that will perform the work domestically. We should also ensure that certain types of industries do not leave the United States completely, thus making the Federal Government dependent on foreign sources for goods, such as plane or ship parts, that our

military may need to acquire on short notice.

My bill would also, for the first time, make the Buy American requirement applicable to Congress. I believe that Congress should lead by example and comply with the Buy American Act. And, in an effort to bring transparency and accountability to the process, it would require agencies to report on their purchases of foreign-made goods.

It is bad enough that our trade policies have encouraged companies to shut down or relocate overseas. Many of the same flawed trade agreements that have sent American jobs overseas have also weakened the Buy American Act.

Last year, the ranking member of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, Mr. LIEBERMAN and I asked the GAO to study the effect of trade agreements on domestic source requirements such as those contained in the Buy American Act. That study, which was released this week, found that the Government is required to give favorable treatment to certain goods from a total of 45 countries as a result of 7 trade agreements and 21 reciprocal defense procurement agreements.

In other words, at the same time that Congress has been paying lip service to the Buy American Act, it has been carving out exceptions to that Act in our trade and defense procurement agreements. It is time for Congress to step up and support efforts to strengthen, not undermine, the Buy American Act.

In addition, Congress must make every effort to help workers who have lost their jobs as a result of our trade policies. Many of these workers require retraining for new jobs that will enable them to support their families.

My third bill, the Community-Based Health Care Retraining Act, would authorize a demonstration project to provide grants to community-based coalitions, led by local workforce development boards, to retrain unemployed workers who wish to obtain new jobs in the health care professions. The funds could be used for a variety of purposes—from increasing the capacity of our schools and training facilities, to providing financial and social support for workers who are in retraining programs. This bill allows for flexibility in the use of grant funds, because I believe that communities know best about the resources they need to run an efficient program.

By providing targeted assistance to train laid-off workers who wish to obtain new jobs in the fast-growing health care sector, we can both help unemployed Americans and improve the availability and quality of health care in our communities.

I hope that my colleagues will support each of my proposals, and I look forward to working with Senators on both sides of the aisle to find additional ways to support our domestic manufacturers and their employees. I

know that there are towns like Florence, WI, all over the country, and I hope that we will finally act this Congress to support the jobs that are the bedrock of those communities.

#### ANTITRUST INVESTIGATIVE IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2005

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the Antitrust Investigative Improvements Act of 2005, a bill I am cosponsoring with Senators DEWINE AND LEAHY. This bill will give the antitrust criminal enforcers at the Department of Justice a vital tool to investigate, detect, and prevent antitrust conspiracies. It will allow the Justice Department, upon a showing of probable cause to a Federal judge, authority to obtain a wiretap order for a limited time period to monitor communications between those suspected of engaging in illegal antitrust conspiracies.

The current Federal criminal code lists over 150 predicate offenses for which the Justice Department may obtain a wiretap during the course of a criminal investigation. These offenses include such basic white collar crimes such as mail fraud, wire fraud, and bank fraud. However, under current law, if the Government is investigating a criminal antitrust conspiracy such as a scheme to fix prices to consumers, the Government cannot obtain a wiretap of the suspected conspirators. This inability to obtain wiretaps unquestionably severely handicaps the detection and prevention of such conspiracies. Only with the consent of a member of the conspiracy who has already agreed to cooperate with the Government may the Government surreptitiously record the meetings of the conspirators.

There is no logical basis to exclude criminal antitrust violations from the list of predicate offenses for a wiretap. A criminal antitrust offense such as price fixing is every bit as serious—and causes every bit as much financial loss to its victims—as other white collar crimes such as mail fraud or wire fraud. A price-fixing conspiracy raises prices to consumers, stealing hard-earned dollars from citizens as surely as does as a salesman promoting a bogus investment from a “boiler room” or, indeed, a thief with a gun. Moreover, by its secret nature as an agreement among competitors, such a conspiracy is likely harder to detect than a fraudulent offering over the phone or through the mail. A properly issued wiretap, therefore, is even more necessary to detect criminal antitrust conspiracies than other white collar offenses.

Detecting, preventing, and punishing criminal antitrust offenses are one of the principal missions of the Justice Department's Antitrust Division. Such offenses are punished severely with corporations facing fines of up to \$100 million and individuals subject to jail terms of up to 10 years for each offense.