

medical students, residents, graduate students, colleagues and others, encouraging them always to strive for excellence and look for new answers. As a researcher he has helped his department secure funding for more than 20 years from the National Institutes of Health. He is nationally and internationally recognized for his research and has authored more than 150 scientific articles, 23 book chapters, and 8 books.

In 1997 and 2000 Dr. Gamelli was named by Chicago Magazine as one of "Chicago's Top Doctors," and in 1982, 1985, 1986, 1988, 1989 and 1990, he was named Professor of the Year by the medical students at Loyola. He was selected by the faculty council of Loyola University Chicago as the 2002 member of the year for his excellence in teaching, research, patient care and service. In light of his extraordinary record of achievement, his alma mater, Saint Michael's College, inducted Dr. Gamelli into the inaugural class of its Alumni Academic Hall of Fame in 2002.

Having served the ABA admirably, Dr. Gamelli recently stepped down as ABA president at this year's annual meeting. I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Dr. Gamelli for his distinguished service and for his ongoing contributions to the American people and the medical community, and I wish him all the best in the future.

REPORTING OF S. 1053

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would like to give notice that on April 27, 2005 the Committee on Rules & Administration reported an original bill to amend the regulatory and reporting structure of organizations registered under section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code.

TRIBUTE TO PETER RODINO

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise today to mourn the passing of former Congressman Peter Rodino and also to celebrate his life.

The son of hard-working Italian immigrants, Peter Rodino grew up on the streets of Newark, NJ, and rose to become a prominent and respected figure during a defining moment in our Nation's history.

Serving as the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Mr. Rodino was charged with managing the impeachment hearings of President Richard Nixon. He had chaired the committee for less than a year when the hearings began, and those who did not know him wondered how he would respond to such a monumental challenge.

He soon put all doubts to rest. He conducted the hearings patiently, thoroughly, and fairly, and in doing so he helped guide our Nation through a difficult test of our Constitution.

By the time the committee had heard all of the evidence about the Watergate break-in and coverup, its members approved several articles of impeachment

by overwhelming bipartisan margins. By this action, they proved that our system of government is greater than any one person or political party.

Most of the Nation got to know Congressman Rodino during the Watergate hearings, but I had known him for years through his tireless work on behalf of the people of his district and New Jersey. He loved the city of Newark and the people of Newark, and he always had their interests at heart.

Whether he was helping to pass the 1966 civil rights bill, extending the Voting Rights Act, or leading the effort to make Martin Luther King's birthday a national holiday, Peter Rodino worked tirelessly to make this Nation as great as it can possibly be.

After I came to the Senate, I had the privilege of working with him to help the people of New Jersey. We served together for 6 years, and I was always amazed by the energy and determination he brought to his job.

He had tackled every challenge with that same energy and determination, from his service in World War II with the 1st Armored Division to his work at Seton Hall law school, where he shared his love of the law with students.

Every now and then, someone comes along who is an inspiration for us all, regardless of political party, religious faith, or ethnic background. Peter Rodino was just such a fellow. While I will miss him very much, I will always treasure his friendship with me and remember all the good he did for New Jersey and its people.

VOLUNTARY PUBLIC ACCESS AND WILDLIFE HABITAT INCENTIVE PROGRAM ACT OF 2005

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, in March Senator ROBERTS joined me in introducing S. 548, the Voluntary Public Access and Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program Act of 2005.

This legislation is enthusiastically supported not only by America's hunters and anglers, but also by agricultural producers, private landowners and those interested in rural development. Open Fields, as this bipartisan legislation is commonly known, addresses hunting, fishing and other recreational access on private land. The legislation also tackles rural development issues head on.

Dwindling access to quality hunting, angling and other wildlife-dependent opportunities is a trend that slowly is pulling apart the American sporting tradition. At the same time, farmers, ranchers, and small town businesses are desperately looking for the means and opportunities to revitalize and stimulate their local economies. These two needs, the need for better access for sportsmen who can not afford to lease land, and the need for economic stimulation in rural America have intersected and spurred the creation of highly effective state public access programs.

Walk-in or access programs are not a new concept. In fact they have very successfully begun to reverse the trend of diminishing numbers of hunters and anglers in States with these programs. At the same time, these programs generate cash and economic activity in rural economies by encouraging increased numbers of hunters, anglers, and others who enjoy wildlife-related activities to spend more of their outdoor recreation dollars in rural America.

Eighteen States are already using their own limited funding resources to finance very successful access programs. These programs have set the stage for even greater success in the future, but only if additional funding becomes available. When enacted into law, Open Fields will provide \$20 million per year in Commodity Credit Corporation funds over the next five years. These funds will be used to provide U.S. Department of Agriculture grants for States with recreational walk-in or access programs. It is our intent that access to all the land that property owners voluntarily enroll under this legislation will be available for, but not limited to, hunting and fishing activities.

I remind our colleagues that the Open Fields legislation offers benefits to many of their constituents, regardless of their State or district, or whether they represent urban or rural Americans. We all know that millions of city dwellers hunt and fish. Access to quality areas to hunt, fish, and enjoy other wildlife related activities within reasonable distances from urban areas is becoming dramatically reduced.

As we travel the rural areas of our States, Senator ROBERTS and I experience firsthand the tremendous need to bring additional income into small towns and communities in Kansas, North Dakota, and across rural America. As members of the Committee on Agriculture, we are constantly looking for alternatives to supplement traditional agricultural programs and improve the economic safety net for our farmers and ranchers that are not considered trade distorting. Open Fields is a program that can help achieve those objectives.

The positive impact of making private lands available to the hunting public is highly visible in Mr. Roberts' home State of Kansas and in my own State of North Dakota. According to data obtained from a 2001 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service study, Kansas and North Dakota have a total of 1,750,000 acres currently enrolled in state-run access programs. Furthermore, this study notes that hunting licenses sold in the State of Kansas increased from 175,000 in 1996 to 205,000 in 2001, a 22.9 percent increase. In North Dakota, hunting license sales increased from 118,000 in 1996 to 133,000 in 2001, a 12.7 percent increase.

During this same time period, the number of hunters nationwide decreased from 14 million to 13 million.

This is a disturbing trend that has resulted in lost jobs, reduced revenues for local communities, and fewer Americans enjoying our rich hunting heritage. State-run access programs are proof that opening additional acres of private land to hunting increases the numbers of hunters and provides a significant boost to the economies of small towns and rural areas.

I cannot emphasize enough what a tremendous opportunity Open Fields provides our colleagues to invest in America and to help preserve our hunting and fishing heritage. Currently, access programs are being successfully administered in states all across America, from Arizona with 2 million acres to Pennsylvania with 4.3 million acres. In 18 States, more than 23 million acres are enrolled. Administrative and incentive payments total just over \$23 million per year, an average of about \$1 per acre.

According to a recently completed cost-benefit analysis, states with active access programs encouraged more than 276,000 hunters to continue to hunt who otherwise would have quit. This translates into about \$512.6 million these hunters spend annually in these States. With this in mind, I remind our colleagues that the \$20 million per year investment called for under this legislation will potentially return many times its initial cost. States with access programs are currently spending about \$23 million per year while generating more than \$512 million in additional economic activity. Through our legislation, this return on investment can become a reality for many more states and communities.

Part of our responsibility as policymakers is to seek opportunities that will improve the quality of life of our constituents. We have introduced the Open Fields legislation as a means to encourage the States to partner with the outdoor recreation community and private landowners to preserve our hunting and fishing heritage and provide economic growth opportunities for rural America.

I urge my colleagues to support and cosponsor Open Fields.

PAUL PECK

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to praise an extraordinary man, Paul Peck. I had the honor of meeting Mr. Peck through our mutual interest in the Smithsonian Institution.

Mr. Peck has been an effective proponent of the civic process. In 2002, Mr. Peck generously donated \$2 million to enhance the National Portrait Gallery's presidential programs, allowing for educational resources related to the presidency. In the same year, the Portrait Gallery founded The Paul Peck Presidential Awards, the only awards in the United States to honor achievement in presidential service and portrayal. Last year, at the Third Annual

Paul Peck Presidential Awards Ceremony, Mr. Peck gave a heartfelt and thought-provoking speech about the need for an increased awareness of American history and an increased level of civil participation in our country. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Mr. Peck's remarks be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The Smithsonian is truly fortunate to have benefited from the dedication and intelligence of Mr. Peck.

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

SUMMARY OF PAUL PECK'S REMARKS, THIRD ANNUAL PAUL PECK PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS

Hi folks.

It's great to be here with you to honor two great Americans: George Elsej and Brian Lamb.

I have been asked many times why I joined with the National Portrait Gallery to focus attention on the presidency.

My answer is: I believe that "Freedom is life and freedom is rooted in democracy."

I believe that Americans are blessed.

And we owe it to our children and grandchildren to pass on this love of freedom and the means to preserve it.

The founding fathers believed that freedom requires voters who are knowledgeable, involved, and vigilant.

Today, however, Fewer people vote, Fewer people seem concerned about civic issues, and Fewer people are involved in the civic, governing, and political process.

Furthermore, we've cut back on teaching Civics and according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress, fewer than 25 percent of Americans have even a basic knowledge of American History.

If we allow this trend to continue, what will it mean to be an American; and what happens to democracy because democracy can't survive as a spectator sport.

We can't continue this way. It's a roadmap to disaster and I worry about the direction we're taking.

I believe every citizen has an obligation to make things better and I believe every citizen can make a difference.

Here's how we're going to fix the problem.

The presidency symbolizes the United States and represents government to most people. Americans are fascinated with the presidency and we're going to build on this fixation to foster civic action, civic understanding, and reasoned voting.

Our civic action goal is to get everybody involved in democracy whether through public service, governing, politics, non-governmental organizations, or civic volunteer activities. America was built on people coming together to achieve great and honorable goals and we're going to re-create this sense of community, caring, and co-operation.

As many of you know, I believe that our children are our future. If they don't know what it means to be an American, how do we preserve freedom, democracy, and the American way of life?

In 1954, Brown vs. The Board of Education made America better; and voting and the right to vote grabbed children's attention and led to lifelong civic involvement. What are we doing today to spark a similar interest in freedom and democracy in our children?

As a first step in increasing civic action and understanding, I intend to request that next Tuesday's presidential election winner set aside one school day every year to discuss American principles and encourage civic engagement. It is my hope that govern-

ment, industry, and academia will encourage participation and provide time to their employees to get involved and help us come together as a nation.

Please help me make this proposal a reality.

In summary, you are our opinion makers. It's vital that you: Strengthen our society, Promote civility, and Inspire people to discuss issues and participate in the civic process;

Thereby promoting Lincoln's ideal of "government of the people, by the people, and for the people."

Thank you for coming.—Paul L. Peck, October 28, 2004

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

DOBSON STUDENTS RECEIVE HONORABLE MENTION

• Mr. KYL. Mr. President, earlier this month, a class of 25 students from Dobson High School in Mesa, AZ, competed against more than 1,250 students from across the United States in the national finals of the "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" program. I am proud to note the Dobson students, led by their teacher Joyce Godfrey, received a fourth place honorable mention in this year's competition.

I would like to take a moment to mention the names of those students who competed for Dobson High: Paul Bergelin, Andrew Brown, Lara Cardy, Zach Clark, Brian Hoblit, Katie Hughes, Byunghun Hyun, Valerie Keirn, Patrick Kwan, Alyssa Little, Alex Matyushov, Linh Nguyen, Danielle Rieger, Ralph Robles, Ashley Rogers, Darci Schimschat, Jessica Sims, Drew Snider, Jamie Stall, Tricia Strei, Wing-Yu Tang, Nehal Thakkar, Jana VanMarche, Ashley Wallace, and Jennifer Yan. I would also like to acknowledge their teacher, Joyce Godfrey, the district coordinator, Kathy Williams, and the State coordinator, Susan Nusall.

I wish these budding constitutional scholars the best of luck in the future.●

NORTHSHORE HARBOR CENTER

• Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the opening of the Northshore Harbor Center in Slidell, LA on May 20, 2005. This new convention center will greatly benefit St. Tammany Parish. I join the East St. Tammany Events Center Commission and all the people of St. Tammany Parish in voicing my excitement about the opening of the center and its potential for economic development.

The Northshore Harbor Center is the product of many years of hard work and intense planning. Though numerous individuals were involved in the project, I would like to take this moment to personally recognize those responsible for its completion. First, I would like to commend the dedicated citizens of the East St. Tammany Events Center Commission. Also, I