

worked tirelessly with mine—especially Susan Davies, whose hard work and dedication to the goal of making good public policy is a testament to her, to Senator LEAHY, and to good legislative process.

The combined package passed today in the form of H.R. 32 represents important, bipartisan legislation designed to combat the trafficking of illegitimate goods throughout the world. The rampant distribution of illegitimate goods—be it counterfeited products, illegal copies of copyrighted works or any other form of piracy—undermines property rights, threatens American jobs, decreases consumer safety and, oftentimes, supports organized crime and terrorist activity.

Amazingly, it is estimated that between 5 percent and 7 percent of worldwide trade is conducted with counterfeit goods and services. According to FBI estimates, counterfeiting costs U.S. businesses as much as \$200 to \$250 billion annually—and that costs Americans their jobs—more than 750,000 jobs according to U.S. Customs.

In recent years, this plague on global trade has grown significantly. According to the World Customs Organization and Interpol, the global trade in illegitimate goods has increased from \$5.5 billion in 1992 to more than \$600 billion per year today. That is \$600 billion per year illegally extracted from the global economy.

But for me, as chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship, I find it most troubling that the counterfeit trade across our borders and throughout the world threatens our safety and our national security. Most frighteningly, evidence indicates that the counterfeit trade supports terrorist activities. Indeed, al-Qaida training manuals recommended the sale of fake goods to raise revenue.

Further, counterfeit goods undermine our confidence in the reliability of goods and service. For example, the Federal Aviation Administration estimates that 2 percent of the 26 million airline parts installed each year are counterfeit. And the Federal Drug Administration estimates that as much as 10 percent of pharmaceuticals are counterfeit.

And the reach of counterfeiting runs deep in my own home State of Texas. Data is difficult to collect, but a 1997 piece detailing Microsoft's efforts to combat counterfeiting and piracy—while dated—pointed out that this type of activity costs Texas over 10,000 jobs and almost \$1 billion. Today, we know those numbers are much higher.

We must act to stop this illegal activity. The legislation we passed today will help us do just that. It is not complicated—nor is it long, but its global impact will be significant. The legislation is designed to provide law enforcement with additional tools to curb the flow of these illegitimate goods and it is perhaps even more critical for businesses, large and small, throughout

America and for ensuring the safety of consumers around the globe.

Those who traffic in counterfeit goods put Americans in danger, support terrorism and undermine the health of our Nation's economy. S. 1095—or the "PAGS Act"—as included in the legislation passed today—fills certain important gaps in current counterfeiting law by clarifying the term "trafficking" to ensure that it is illegal to:

Possess counterfeit goods with the intention of selling them; give away counterfeit goods in exchange for some future benefit—in effect, the "bartering" of counterfeit goods in such a way that avoids criminality; import or export counterfeit goods or unauthorized copies of copyrighted works.

This bill will protect property rights, protect consumer safety, preserve American jobs, and bolster the American economy by cracking down on the trade of illegal counterfeit goods and services.

Each of these items was highlighted by the Department of Justice in its October, 2004 report on its Task Force on Intellectual Property. In it, the Department describes the significant limitation law enforcement oftentimes faces in pursuing counterfeiters and offers, among others, the principles embraced in the Protecting American Goods and Services Act, as possible solutions to these obstacles.

This legislation, and other reforms, will help turn the tide of the growing counterfeit trade. The legislation is critically important to law enforcement—but it is even more critical for businesses, large and small, throughout America—including in my home State of Texas—as well as for ensuring the safety of consumers around the globe. Those who traffic in counterfeit goods put Americans in danger, support terrorism and undermine the health of our nation's economy. It is time to put an end to this scourge on society.

I look forward to the President signing this legislation into law, and in so doing, protecting property rights, protecting consumer safety, preserving American jobs and bolstering the American economy.

OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

Mr. INOUYE. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss an organization with which many of my colleagues have some personal familiarity, the Office of the Attending Physician. Many of my colleagues have come to rely upon the Attending Physician's Office here in the Congress as the source for support and medical advice. Most of us are personally aware of the fine work performed by Dr. Eisold and his staff in providing care for the Members of Congress, but there is much about the office which we don't think about regularly.

The Senate has been served by the Attending Physician since 1930, a little

more than a year after the office was established by the House of Representatives. The first Attending Physician, Dr. George Calver, served this body for approximately 37 years. He was known for offering health tips to Members of Congress such as "eat wisely, drink plentifully (of water). Play enthusiastically and relax completely. Stay out of the Washington social whirl—go out at night twice a week at most." And, perhaps most importantly, "Don't let yourself get off-balance, nervous and disturbed over things." Each of these remains good advice all these years later.

My colleagues and I know we can count on the expertise of the Attending Physician in many areas of medical advice. On average, the office successfully treats more than 50,000 patients annually. They regularly track the spread of infectious disease so that they can determine which inoculations and other medications will be required when Members travel to foreign locations. Members of the Senate rely on the physician's office for our annual flu shots and for assistance on minor medical problems. We also count on them, as do our staff and visitors to the Capitol, for handling medical emergencies.

The Office of the Attending Physician also provides unique capabilities that are very important to the success of this institution which are not well known. The office is poised for crisis response. In recent years, it has responded to the anthrax outbreak in the Hart Building and to the ricin scare. The physicians, nurses, and other medical staff have the capability and training to respond to many potential emergencies up to and include terrorist response.

The office is equipped with mobile medical vehicles designed to allow for deploying medical support throughout the region, if necessary, for offsite operations. These vehicles are well equipped to handle many medical emergencies that could arise. Each has a fully functioning laboratory and two examination rooms complete with most modern equipment. As the Congress considers its continuity of Government requirements, the Office of the Attending Physician is well positioned to support emergency legislative operations which could be required following an attack.

Mr. President, the Office of the Attending Physician provides a critical capability to the legislative branch. The services they provide serve as a convenience to busy Members of the Congress, but they are much more. They are a vital piece of emergency response in the Capitol. They are ready, when called upon, to play a key role in ensuring continuity of the legislative branch, they serve to handle any medical emergency which might arise at the Capitol.

We owe a great deal to Dr. Eisold and his team of fine specialists. May I suggest all of my colleagues thank them for their great service the next time we

see them in action. They deserve our gratitude and support.

VETERANS HEALTH CARE

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I am concerned that the President's Department of Veterans Affairs fiscal year 2007 budget request does not include adequate funding for VA health care. Specifically, this budget request would require certain veterans to pay a \$250 enrollment fee in order to access the health care system each year. In addition, the budget proposes to more than double prescription copayments from \$7 to \$15, further burdening the limited resources of those who have served our country.

The VA estimates that these measures will save the Department an estimated \$795 million in 2007. This savings estimate is based not only on collections but on increasing the number of veterans who will opt-out of the service due to the higher fees. The VA estimates they will force over 1 million veterans, almost half of the Priority 7 and Priority 8 veterans, to drop out of the VA health care system.

Do we really want our veterans to be faced with the difficult choice of either dropping out of the VA health care system or bearing these additional costs? Those who do not drop out of the VA health care system will be forced to pay hundreds more for their health care. Veterans who receive prescription drugs from the VA and who fill a typical number of prescriptions a year could face new fees amounting to nearly \$600. I realize that agencies such as the VA must look for ways to save dollars, but our Nation's veterans deserve adequate and affordable health care.

While I understand the need to reduce Federal spending, I urge my colleagues to reject these proposals to reduce spending for VA health care in the fiscal year 2007 budget. I believe it is absolutely critical that the VA health care system be fully funded. The Congress has rejected these proposals in the past, and I hope it will do so again this year. Our veterans should not be faced with these choices nor forced to bear this burden. We must keep our promise to care for the veterans who made so many sacrifices to ensure the freedom of so many.

NATIONAL SPORTSMANSHIP DAY

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today, March 7, 2006, we celebrate the 16th annual National Sportsmanship Day. Begun in 1991 by the Institute for International Sport at the University of Rhode Island, this initiative promotes the highest ideals of sportsmanship and fair play among America's youth. In 13,000 schools, across all 50 States, and in countries around the world, students, teachers, administrators, coaches, and parents will engage in discussions on the issues of sportsmanship and fair play. The theme of this year's National Sportsmanship Day is "De-

feat Gamesmanship!" and participants will talk about appropriate tactics and strategies when participating in games and sports.

This year, in addition to promoting the values of sportsmanship and fair play, the Institute for International Sport will recognize schools across the country that have exceptional sportsmanship programs with the new All-American Sportsmanship School Award. A minimum of 64 awards will be given out to elementary, middle, and high schools as well as colleges that participate in National Sportsmanship Day and honor its principles year round.

I am proud that Rhode Island is home to the Institute for International Sport and National Sportsmanship Day. For 16 years, this initiative has had a positive influence on our Nation's youth in promoting the best in athletics, and I know it will continue to do so this year and in the future.

HONORING THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE CORPS

Mr. INOUYE. Mr. President, on March 1, 1961, President Kennedy signed an Executive order that established the Peace Corps whose mission would be to promote peace, mutual understanding, and friendship between Americans and the people of the world. Back then, the world was viewed as engaged in a cold war with the United States and its allies pitted against the Communist bloc. President Kennedy envisioned the Peace Corps as an agency that would create opportunities for Americans to reach out to the rest of the world, and make positive contributions to community development and nation-building overseas.

As we celebrate the Peace Corps's 45th anniversary, all Americans can be proud of what the agency has accomplished and continues to do. Through its hardworking and committed volunteers who now number nearly 8,000, the Peace Corps provides assistance today in 138 host countries in such fields as education, healthcare, environmental preservation, and business development.

Last year, the Peace Corps's Crisis Corps Volunteers helped with rebuilding efforts in tsunami-ravaged areas of Sri Lanka and Thailand. And, for the first time in its history, volunteers were deployed at home as approximately 270 volunteers assisted with recovery efforts along the U.S. gulf coast in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and Rita.

I am also proud to report that the Peace Corps continues to attract Volunteers from Hawaii. At this moment, 12 volunteers from Hawaii are serving in 12 different host countries that include Bulgaria, China, Morocco, Nicaragua, Swaziland, and Tanzania.

It is a pleasure to join all Americans in congratulating the Peace Corps and its volunteers past and present for their outstanding work, and for their

invaluable and effective civic contributions to communities throughout the world.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I would like the record to reflect that I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 31, the confirmation of Timothy C. Batten, Sr., of Georgia, to be U.S. District Judge on Monday, March 6, 2006. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted in favor of the nomination.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO ARNOLD FRIBERG

• Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute to Arnold Friberg, a gifted American artist.

For more than eight decades as a painter, Mr. Friberg has set down a profound and varied body of work, including magazine covers and illustrations, World War II depictions, the Northwest Mounted Police, Book of Mormon illustrations, portraits, including Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth of England, and many rich and dramatic depictions of the Old West. This year marks the 30th anniversary of his revered *Prayer at Valley Forge*, which shows George Washington at prayer. Along with Emanuel Leutze's *Washington Crossing the Delaware*, Friberg's *Prayer at Valley Forge* is one of the great American patriotic paintings.

In 1953, Arnold Friberg was summoned to Hollywood by Cecil B. DeMille for a 1-month consultation on costume design for a film he was going to remake. DeMille became so impressed by the artist that soon afterward Mr. Friberg was called back to Hollywood and began a warm, personal collaboration with the storied director that lasted for 4 years.

Mr. Friberg became DeMille's chief artist-designer for the well-known movie "The Ten Commandments," which brought the artist an Academy Award nomination. Half a century later, "The Ten Commandments" still draws sizable audiences to television broadcasts and DVD sales. Becoming the visual designer for what DeMille and his set decorators and cameramen put on film, Mr. Friberg painted major scenes of the salient episodes in the Old Testament including The Finding of Moses, Moses and the Burning Bush, First Passover, Exodus Begins, Orgy of the Golden Calf, Moses Receiving the Law, and Crossing of the Red Sea. Visually, the film was built around these scenes, along with major costume designs created by the artist.

After completion of the film, Mr. Friberg's original paintings were widely exhibited wherever the film opened, and more than 1 million copies of a catalog depicting them were sold.

The golden anniversary of the release of the film is being celebrated this