

"We're restricted by the disabilities act from asking," said Rick Shaw, Stanford's admissions director. "We do ask a question, as most institutions do, about whether a student has been suspended or expelled from school, and if they have been, we ask them to write an explanation of it."

Federal laws also restrict what universities can reveal. Generally, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, FERPA, passed in 1974, makes it illegal to disclose a student's records to family members without the student's authorization.

"Colleges can disclose a student's private records if they believe there's a health and safety emergency, but that health and safety exception hasn't been much tested in the courts, so it's left to be figured out case by case," Ms. Fleming said.

And the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act prohibits the release of medical records. "The interaction of all these laws does not make things easy," she said.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, on Monday America was devastated by the deadliest shooting rampage in our Nation's history. A gunman using two semi-automatic handguns, shot and killed 32 students and teachers and injured several dozen others before turning one of his guns on himself. Witnesses described scenes of chaos and grief, with students jumping from second-story windows to escape gunfire, while others heroically blocked their classroom doors to shield them from the gunman.

Many of us watched this tragedy unfold on the news, finding it difficult to grasp the true magnitude of it. Parents and grandparents across America were thinking about the horror of one's child being caught in the middle of such chaos. There is little that could be worse for a parent than sending a child off to college, only to lose them to a senseless act of gun violence.

I express condolences to the family, friends, and community touched by the tragedy at Virginia Tech. I know I reflect the feelings of the people of Michigan when I say that our thoughts and prayers are with them in this hour of pain and grief.

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today I express my sympathy and I know the sympathy of all of the Members of the Senate and the people of the United States of America on the tragic losses this week at Virginia Tech.

None of us can understand what happened in Blacksburg, VA, but all of us recognize the profound tragedy and the loss of youth in its prime.

I learned this week that one of those losses was a Georgian by the name of Christopher James "Jamie" Bishop, and I, from the floor of the Senate, send to Pine Mountain, GA, my sympathy on the tragic loss of Jamie.

Jamie, who was passionate about his art and an avid amateur photographer, grew up in Pine Mountain, GA, and was valedictorian of Harris County High School. He received his bachelor's degree in German from my alma mater, the University of Georgia, and was a Fulbright scholar at Christian-Albrechts-University in Kiel, Germany.

He returned to the University of Georgia to earn his master's degree in German linguistics.

Jamie, who was known for wearing his hair in a ponytail, had been a German instructor at Virginia Tech since 2005. His wife, Stefanie Hofer, is an assistant professor of German there. By all accounts, Jamie was an intelligent, clever and passionate individual.

I am very proud as a Georgian to have known of his accomplishments, and I send his wife Stefanie and his parents Michael and Jeri my prayers and my hopes that they will accept our sympathy as they endure the heartbreak of the loss of Jamie.

To the families of all of those professors, employees, and students who lost their lives or were hurt in Blacksburg, VA, I extend my sympathy and my deepest prayers that we will find reconciliations out of tragedy.

ARMY AVIATION ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I take great pride in recognizing the Army Aviation Association of America's, AAAAA, 50th anniversary and in honoring their countless historic and noble contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation. Army aviation members play a critical role in every combat theater worldwide, and AAAAA has proven to be a means of unwavering support. This unique organization has been the mechanism for increased communication and professional development among Army aviators throughout the history of organic Army aviation and the Army Aviation Branch. This contribution has led to vast leaps in battlefield mobility, lethality, and flexibility for the U.S. Army. AAAAA and its members have distinguished themselves with thousands of volunteer hours and dollars providing direct support and scholarships to Army aviation soldiers and their family members. I can say with certainty that AAAAA has truly lived its mission of "Supporting the U.S. Army Aviation Soldier and Family" since its inception in 1957. I am pleased to publicly recognize this longstanding commitment to our military personnel and congratulate the Army Aviation Association of America on 50 years of service.

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, on April 18, 2007, the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library met and adopted the rules of procedure for the 110th Congress. I ask unanimous consent that pursuant to paragraph 2 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate that the rules of procedure of the Joint Committee of Congress for the Library be printed in the RECORD.

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

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY, 110TH CONGRESS

TITLE I—MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

1. Regular meetings may be called by the chairman, with the concurrence of the vice-chairman, as may be deemed necessary or pursuant to the provision of paragraph 3 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

2. Meetings of the committee, including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be open to the public, except that a meeting or series of meetings by the committee on the same subject for a period of no more than 14 calendar days may be closed to the public on a motion made and seconded to go into closed session to discuss only whether the matters enumerated in subparagraphs (A) through (F) would require the meeting to be closed followed immediately by a recorded vote in open session by a majority of the members of the committee when it is determined that the matters to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such meeting or meetings—

(A) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of the foreign relations of the United States;

(B) will relate solely to matters of the committee staff personal or internal staff management or procedures;

(C) will tend to charge an individual with a crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise to expose an individual to public contempt or obloquy, or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy of an individual;

(D) will disclose the identity of any informer or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interest of effective law enforcement;

(E) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets or financial or commercial information pertaining specifically to a given person if—

(1) an Act of Congress requires the information to be kept confidential by Government officers and employees; or

(2) the information has been obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, other than through an application by such person for a specific Government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of such person; or

(F) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under the provisions of law or Government regulation. (Paragraph 5(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate.)

3. Written notices of committee meetings will normally be sent by the committee's staff director to all members at least 3 days in advance. In addition, the committee staff will email or telephone reminders of committee meetings to all members of the committee or to the appropriate staff assistants in their offices.

4. A copy of the committee's intended agenda enumerating separate items of committee business will normally be sent to all members of the committee by the staff director at least 1 day in advance of all meetings. This does not preclude any member of the committee from raising appropriate non-agenda topics.

5. Any witness who is to appear before the committee in any hearing shall file with the clerk of the committee at least 3 business days before the date of his or her appearance, a written statement of his or her proposed

testimony and an executive summary thereof, in such form as the chairman may direct, unless the chairman waived such a requirement for good cause.

TITLE II—QUORUMS

1. Pursuant to paragraph 7(a)(1) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules, 4 members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

2. Pursuant to paragraph 7(a)(2) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules, 2 members of the committee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony; provided, however, once a quorum is established, any one member can continue to take such testimony.

3. Under no circumstance may proxies be considered for the establishment of a quorum.

TITLE III—VOTING

1. Voting in the committee on any issue will normally be by voice vote.

2. If a third of the members present so demand, a recorded vote will be taken on any question by rollcall.

3. The results of the rollcall votes taken in any meeting upon a measure, or any amendment thereto, shall be stated in the committee report on that measure unless previously announced by the committee, and such report or announcement shall include a tabulation of the votes cast in favor and the votes cast in opposition to each measure and amendment by each member of the committee. (Paragraph 7(b) and (c) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules.)

4. Proxy voting shall be allowed on all measures and matters before the committee. However, the vote of the committee to report a measure or matters shall require the concurrence of a majority of the members of the committee who are physically present at the time of the vote. Proxies will be allowed in such cases solely for the purpose of recording a member's position on the question and then only in those instances when the absentee committee member has been informed of the question and has affirmatively requested that he be recorded. (Paragraph 7(a)(3) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules.)

TITLE IV—DELEGATION AND AUTHORITY TO THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

1. The chairman and vice chairman are authorized to sign all necessary vouchers and routine papers for which the committee's approval is required and to decide in the committee's behalf on all routine business.

2. The chairman is authorized to engage commercial reporters for the preparation of transcripts of committee meetings and hearings.

3. The chairman is authorized to issue, on behalf of the committee, regulations normally promulgated by the committee at the beginning of each session.

COMMEMORATING WORLD HEALTH DAY

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I wish to make a few remarks regarding commemoration of World Health Day by the World Health Organization, WHO. On Saturday, April 7, 2007, WHO again commemorated its 1948 founding with the annual World Health Day. This year's theme is international health security.

In the words of WHO, "Threats to health know no borders."

Globalization, characterized by increased mobility of populations and the emergence of new, highly contagious diseases, make us increasingly vulnerable to pandemics and other health cri-

ses. Diseases such as highly pathogenic avian influenza, or "bird flu," severe acute respiratory syndrome, or "SARS," have entered our public health and security vocabulary. They are worthy of serious study, focus, and action. The spread of these and other virulent diseases and the potentially cataclysmic impact of a pandemic on countries around the world and here in the United States reminds us all of the critical need for adequate preparedness and continued awareness of threats to the health and well-being of Americans and people around the world.

We need a strategy to handle a pandemic flu outbreak, one that includes a multilayered and multinational approach to detecting and isolating viruses before they can spread. At my request, the Government Accountability Office has undertaken several investigations into how best to prepare for a possible pandemic flu outbreak. The first line of protection should be to deploy overseas public health specialists and veterinarians to detect a virus in its early stages. We need to provide more international assistance to countries least able to defend themselves. At the same time, DHS should develop sophisticated response plans to maintain critical services, such as water, power, transportation, and medical and financial services, in the event a pandemic forces the Nation to adopt a quarantine strategy.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control, CDC, has established a global disease protection program, and DHS has created a new Office of Health Affairs that will bring together medical readiness and biological defense activities, including BioWatch. However, I remain concerned about the level of coordination between these and other domestic actors regarding pandemic planning. As chairman of the Subcommittee on Government Management, the Federal Workforce and the District of Columbia under the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs, I hope to address this and other issues related to pandemic planning and response so that the United States is prepared for any natural or manmade attack, including a pandemic flu.

The mutation of avian influenza, a zoonotic disease that originated in birds but has since been transmitted to humans, is a high-profile reminder that we cannot cease our efforts to prepare for and respond to health crises. Since the H5N1 strain of bird flu was first detected in 1997, the threat has not abated. Of the 291 confirmed cases of bird flu reported to the WHO since that time, more than half, 171, have resulted in death. While these numbers may not seem large or significant, they are a warning signal that avian flu has mutated and continues to spread. As it does, it adapts and can become even more deadly. In our interdependent and highly mobile world, we are never immune and, as such, we cannot be complacent.

For example, my home State of Hawaii lies at the crossroads between

Asia and the continental United States. Nearly 2 million people visit Hawaii every year from Asia. Given the large number of confirmed cases of avian influenza in Asia, it is easy to understand why Hawaii continues to take bird flu and pandemic planning very seriously. Unfortunately, this disease shows no signs of abating. According to the World Health Organization, just this month, the Cambodian Ministry of Health confirmed the country's seventh case of human infection with the H5N1 avian influenza virus. It is the first case to be confirmed in humans in Cambodia in 2007. On April 7, avian flu claimed the life of a 74th victim in Indonesia, while on April 11, Egypt confirmed the death of a 15-year-old girl in Cairo, its 14th victim from avian flu.

But we must also remember that pandemic flu is not the only risk to human health. To coincide with World Health Day 2007, the WHO released a report entitled "Invest in Health. Build a Safer Future." In it, the WHO lists eight key issues linked to international health security. Highly contagious diseases is certainly one of those issues, but also included are the threat of chemical, radioactive, and biological terror threats, the threat of public health dangers on economic stability, and building health security, to include a framework for collaboration laid out by the International Health Regulations, IHRs, and a number of surveillance networks that can provide an early-warning and response system.

I commend the WHO for its ongoing efforts to raise awareness of the need to work toward international health security and to continue to address the threat of highly contagious disease, chemical, biological, and radiological terrorism, and the economic impact of pandemic disease. Global health is no longer just a matter of ensuring the vitality, economic stability, and environments of the United States and countries around the world. It is about security. It is about homeland security. In commemorating World Health Day 2007, WHO Director General Margaret Chan put a fine point on this notion by stating that, "A foreign agent that invades a sovereign territory, evades detection, kills civilians and disrupts the economy is a security threat by most definitions The best defense against emerging and epidemic-prone diseases is not passive barriers at borders, airports and seaports. It is proactive risk management that seeks to detect an outbreak early and stop it at its source." Through a continuing focus on an all-hazards approach, a more comprehensive approach to defending our homeland, we can help mitigate the universal vulnerability the United States and other countries face against large-scale health catastrophes.