

possible for more families to feel secure in this country again.

Mr. President, I thank the Presiding Officer and look forward to the vote tomorrow morning.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO JEROME HOLTZMAN

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable and legendary Illinoisan, Jerome Holtzman. Mr. Holtzman was a pioneer of baseball writing and renowned for his numerous accomplishments. He passed away on July 19 at the age of 81.

The first official historian of Major League Baseball, Holtzman wrote about the game, but truly he cared about the people. He was known for spending time with umpires before games and was able to bring generations of fans together through his columns.

Jerome Holtzman was a true American success story. In 1943, at the youthful age of 17, he started his newspaper career as a copy boy for the Chicago Times. After 2 years in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II, he covered high school sports at the Times and Sun-Times.

He started at the bottom, but he impressed many along the way. Holtzman stayed on as a baseball beat writer and columnist at the Chicago Sun-Times for 30 years. It was at the Sun-Times where Holtzman met his wife Marilyn Ryan. With their five children, they lived in Evanston—in a home frequented by baseball fans and Jerome Holtzman fans. He spent the last 10 years of his career writing for the Chicago Tribune.

One of the most distinguished honors Holtzman achieved over his remarkable career was the induction into the writers' wing of the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1989. His colleagues knew him as "the Dean," a nickname given to him by fellow Hall of Famer Billy Williams. The nickname reflects his stature as a baseball-writing "lifer" and his loyal dedication to the game.

Among his accomplishments was the creation of the save. Holtzman's save rule became an official Major League Baseball statistic that acknowledges effective relief pitching. Acknowl-

edging his profound influence, former Sun-Times columnist Bill Gleason stated, "The reality is, he revolutionized baseball."

In addition to his columns, Holtzman was the author of six books, including a classic titled "No Cheering in the Press Box." Many columnists considered his book required reading and a foundation to baseball writing. Cubs Chairman Crane Kenney remembered Holtzman as "an accomplished writer who earned respect from both his readers and from those whom he covered."

Jerome Holtzman will be remembered as a great friend and mentor. Chicago and baseball fans across the Nation have lost a celebrated sports-writer and icon, but future generations will continue to remember his great legacy and influential contributions to the game.

CAPTURE OF RADOVAN KARADZIC

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have sought recognition today to commend Serbian authorities for apprehending former Republika Srpska president Radovan Karadzic. Earlier this month we marked the 13th anniversary of the genocide at Srebrenica. The arrest this week of Radovan Karadzic, in connection with that crime, shows that it is never too late to seek justice for the terrible crimes committed during the 1992–95 war in Bosnia. Over a decade after being indicted for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, ICTY, at The Hague, Radovan Karadzic was arrested on Monday, July 21, outside Belgrade.

Radovan Karadzic's arrest represents a significant breakthrough for international jurisprudence. Serge Brammertz, prosecutor of the war crimes tribunal in The Hague, said, "This is a very important day for the victims who have waited for this arrest for over a decade." "It is also an important day for international justice because it clearly demonstrates that nobody is beyond the reach of the law and that sooner or later all fugitives will be brought to justice."

Richard Holbrooke, who brokered the Dayton Accords in 1995 which ended the war in Bosnia, said, "This is a historic event." "Of the three most evil men of the Balkans, Milosevic, Karadzic and Mladic, I thought Karadzic was the worst. The reason was that Karadzic was a real racist believer. Karadzic really enjoyed ordering the killing of Muslims. . . ."

Richard Dicker, director of Human Rights Watch's International Justice Program, said, "Radovan Karadzic personified impunity for more than a decade, but his efforts to run the clock on justice have failed." "This arrest offers hope to the victims of the horrific crimes that occurred here. We welcome this long-overdue arrest and look forward to his fair trial in The Hague."

I commend the Serbian Government for the resolve it has demonstrated in

arresting Mr. Karadzic. I think it is vital that Mr. Karadzic be transferred to The Hague in due course, and that the search for Republika Srpska military commander General Ratko Mladic continue. It is vital that the international community, including the United States, continue to support efforts to bring justice for these crimes, not just in The Hague, but also at the local level in Bosnia, where lack of resources and other obstacles mean that many victims continue to wait for justice for the crimes committed against them. To that end, local war crimes trials for thousands of other suspected perpetrators from the Bosnia atrocities must receive support to overcome the challenges they face in order to seal any remaining impunity gaps in Bosnia.

To echo a statement I made on the Senate floor on February 11, 1998, it is my sense that if the war crimes tribunal at The Hague is successful, if we can bring the rule of law into the international arena, we may have the most important institutional change in international relations of the past century.

ADVANCING AMERICA'S PRIORITIES ACT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, earlier this week, I joined the majority leader in the introduction of S. 3297, the Advancing America's Priorities Act. The majority leader selected 35 legislative items from the jurisdiction of seven Senate committees, including eight bills from that of the Senate Judiciary Committee, for this effort. These are all measures with bipartisan support and, we believe, the support of a strong bipartisan majority of the Senate. I have moved several through the Judiciary Committee, and several have already passed the House. All have the support of all Democratic Senators, and all were cleared for unanimous Senate passage, but each has been stalled on the Senate floor by Republican objection.

One key bill included in this package is the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act. I thank Senator DODD and Congressman LEWIS for their tireless work on this bill over the last 4 years. It will strengthen the ability of the Federal Government to investigate and prosecute unsolved murders from the civil rights era. It would create new cold case units in the Justice Department and FBI dedicated to investigating and prosecuting unsolved cases involving violations of criminal civil rights statutes which resulted in death and occurred before January 1, 1970. The Senate legislation was introduced on February 8, 2007. I was proud to cosponsor Senator DODD's bill. The Judiciary Committee reported it by unanimous consent as amended on June 20, 2007, more than a year ago. The House legislation passed the House on June 20, 2007, more than a year ago, by a vote of 422 to 2. Its Republican cosponsors include Senator COCHRAN,

Senator HATCH, Senator ALEXANDER, and Senator CORNYN.

Yesterday I had the privilege of meeting Emmett Till's cousin, Simeon Wright, who was with him that terrible night. The brutal killing of Emmett Till galvanized this Nation. I want to acknowledge Mr. Wright's courage and his commitment to fight for justice for all these years.

The primary purpose of the Till bill is to track down those whose violent acts during a period of national turmoil remain unpunished. By passing this legislation, we honor Emmett Till and all those who sacrificed their lives advancing civil rights. It is disgraceful that it has taken us so long to take this basic step to pursue justice too long delayed. It is incredible to me that some continue to obstruct these efforts. It reminds me of those who so adamantly opposed a national holiday to recognize the contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the progress this country has made toward equal justice.

Another important piece of legislation in this bill is the reauthorization of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act. Many Vermonters have told me how much that act is needed to help young people in Vermont and around the country. I held a hearing in Rutland this year on crime in small cities and towns, which emphasized the need for programs to help young people in difficult circumstances, and held another here in Washington on this measure before the Judiciary Committee reported it in April. The companion House bill passed in June.

In addition, the eight Judiciary Committee related bills include several concerning child pornography, exploitation and drugs. The Effective Child Pornography Prosecution Act passed the House 409 to 0 last November; the Enhancing the Effective Prosecution of Child Pornography provision passed the House 416 to 0 last November; the PROTECT Our Children Act passed the House 415 to 2 last November; the Drug Endangered Children Act passed the House last September 389 to 4. All of these bills have been cleared by all Democratic Senators.

Thus, the Judiciary Committee components in S. 3297 are all measures that should have passed the Senate long ago. Two of the eight have Republican Senators as their lead sponsors. Others have Republican cosponsors.

People are rightly worried about keeping their communities safe and protecting their children. The Judiciary Committee has worked throughout this Congress to advance these priorities of Americans. Sadly, these important efforts have been obstructed by Republican objections. I hope that all Senators will join together tomorrow to pass S. 3297 without further delay.

The bill we will consider tomorrow contains eight Judiciary Committee-related pieces. There were selected from many more bills that have been reported favorably by the Senate Judi-

ciary Committee and that have passed the House. All these bills have the support of every Democratic Senator, and it is Republican objections, usually anonymous objections, that are keeping them from passing.

Let me mention some of the others:

S. 879, No Oil Producing and Exporting Cartels Act of 2007—this bill would make it illegal for any foreign state or any instrumentality or agent of a foreign state to act collectively with another foreign state to limit the production, set the price, or take any other action to restrain trade of oil, natural gas, or any petroleum product. The actions of OPEC to limit production of oil, natural gas, and other petroleum products result in higher prices of crude oil and, thus, gasoline in the United States. These actions are having a harmful effect on American consumers. This legislation will make clear that the actions of nations and their agents to limit supply and fix prices of oil, natural gas, and other petroleum products to affect the U.S. market violates U.S. antitrust law, and it will authorize the Attorney General to enforce antitrust law against such nations and prevent technical legal doctrines such as sovereign immunity and act of state from preventing actions for redress.

S. 368, COPS Improvements Act of 2007—this bill would reauthorize and improve the Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, COPS. Since 1994, the programs created by the COPS initiative have helped drive down crime rates. The COPS Program would restore vital programs that have been cut at a time when our law enforcement officers need it most. S. 368 would authorize \$600 million to hire officers to engage in community policing, intelligence gathering and antiterror initiatives, and to serve as school resource officers. It would authorize \$350 million per year for technology grants and \$200 million per year to help local district attorneys hire community prosecutors. Also, it would establish the COPS office as an entity within the Department of Justice to carry out these functions and activities under the COPS Program in order to eliminate duplication of efforts.

S. 119/H.R. 400, War Profiteering Prevention Act of 2007—this legislation would strengthen the tools available to Federal law enforcement to combat contracting fraud during times of war, military action, or relief or reconstruction activities. It would also extend extraterritorial jurisdiction in an attempt to reach fraudulent conduct wherever it occurs. The bill would create a new criminal fraud offense in title 18 of the U.S. Code to prohibit fraudulent acts involving the provision of goods or services in connection with a war, military action, or relief or reconstruction activities.

S. 185, Habeas Corpus Restoration Act of 2007—this bill would repeal provisions of the Military Commissions

Act of 2006 that eliminated the jurisdiction of any court to hear or consider applications for a writ of habeas corpus filed by aliens who have been determined by the United States to have been properly detained as enemy combatants. Passage of this bill would restore the basic and essential right to challenge arbitrary detention by the Government to noncitizens, including the 12 million lawful permanent residents currently in this country, who under current law may be held forever with no recourse to challenge their detention in court. This legislation will contribute to renewed global respect for American values and the rule of law.

S. 2511, a bill to amend the grant program for law enforcement armor vests to provide for a waiver of or reduction in the matching funds requirement in the case of fiscal hardship—this bill would amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance to waive, in whole or in part, matching fund requirements applicable to the grant program for the purchase of armor vests for law enforcement officers.

S. 2344, Internet Safety Education Act of 2007—this bill would create a competitive grant program for eligible organizations to carry out free, age-appropriate programs that promote Internet safety for children. This would give educators and parents the tools necessary to teach proper online interactions and promote safe Internet usage to their students and children in an age-appropriate manner.

H.R. 3095, to amend the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 to modify a deadline relating to a certain election by Indian tribes—this bipartisan bill would provide Indian tribes a 1-year extension in which to decide how to comply with the requirements of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006. The Adam Walsh Act enacted new requirements for States and Indian tribes to maintain sex offender registration information, post such information on the Internet, and share such information among States and other Indian tribes. The Justice Department proposed detailed regulations for States and Indian tribes to comply with the Adam Walsh Act, but those regulations are not yet final. The Indian tribes cannot make an informed decision on how to comply with the act until those regulations are final. This 1-year extension would give Indian tribes sufficient time to make appropriate choices.

S. 267/H.R. 545, Native American Methamphetamine Enforcement and Treatment Act—this bill would ensure that Indian tribes are able to apply for grant programs authorized by the Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act. When Congress passed the Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act, tribes were unintentionally left out as eligible applicants in some of these programs. This bill would clarify that

territories and Indian communities are eligible to receive the resources they need to fight methamphetamine use.

S. 877, Controlling the Abuse of Prescriptions Act of 2007—this bill seeks to crack down on performance-enhancing drugs by putting human growth hormone on the same list of controlled substances as anabolic steroids. Classifying human growth hormone, HGH, as a schedule III controlled substance would subject the drug to more Government regulation and stiffer penalties for illegal distribution.

S. 1027, PACT Act—this bill would help combat cigarette trafficking by updating existing antitrafficking laws and introducing new tools to combat illegal remote sales, such as those conducted over the Internet. The legislation closes loopholes in current tobacco trafficking laws, enhances penalties for violations, and provides law enforcement with new tools to combat the innovative new methods being used by cigarette traffickers to distribute their products. By strengthening criminal laws governing cigarette trafficking and empowering Federal, State, and local law enforcement with the powers to investigate and prosecute the cigarette traffickers of the 21st century, the PACT Act can help disrupt terrorist groups and other organized criminal enterprises.

S. 627, Safe Babies Act of 2007—this bill would amend the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 to require the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to award a grant to a national early childhood development organization to establish a National Court Teams Resource Center. The goals of the Center would be to promote the well-being of maltreated infants and toddlers and their families, help prevent the recurrence of abuse and neglect of children, and promote timely reunification of families.

H.R. 5569, to extend for 5 years the EB-5 Regional Center Pilot Program, and for other purposes—this bill would extend the EB-5 Regional Center Program for 5 years. This program allows entrepreneurs from around the country to apply for Regional Center designation with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, which in turn allows project managers to attract foreign investment to discrete projects within specified geographic areas, many of which are rural areas in need of economic stimulation. Over the years, this program has resulted in foreign capital investment of billions of dollars and the creation of thousands of jobs in American communities. This important program is set to expire on September 30, 2008, and its reauthorization is critical for the many Americans who depend upon this program to make positive economic changes to their communities.

S. 442, John R. Justice Prosecutors and Defenders Incentive Act of 2007—this bill would establish a student loan repayment program for qualified attor-

neys who agree to remain employed for at least 3 years in certain public sector employment. This targeted student loan repayment assistance program will bolster the ranks of attorneys in the criminal justice system, enhancing the quality of that system and the public's confidence in it.

S. 3296, to extend the authority of the U.S. Supreme Court Police to protect court officials off the Supreme Court grounds and change the title of the Administrative Assistant to the Chief Justice—this bill would extend for 5 years the authority of the U.S. Supreme Court Police to protect Supreme Court Justices when they leave the Supreme Court grounds. In January of this year, the Court Security Improvement Act was signed into law to authorize additional resources to protect Federal judges, personnel, and courthouses. This additional legislation would extend the authority of the U.S. Supreme Court Police to protect the Supreme Court Justices on and off Court grounds. It would also change the title of the Chief Justice's senior advisor from "Administrative Assistant" to "Counselor."

S. 3106, a bill to amend chapter 13 of title 17, United States Code, relating to the vessel hull design protection, to clarify the definitions of a hull and a deck—this bill would give the Department of Defense full assurance that Government and defense designs will not be subject to unwarranted restrictions. In 1998, Congress passed the Vessel Hull Design Protection Act to recognize the significant time, effort, and innovation that figure into ship design. Recent action in the courts has made it clear that in order to be effective, this law needs to be clarified and refined. This bill does exactly that by clarifying the definition of "hull" and "deck," to ensure that the intellectual property rights of vessel hull designers would be protected.

H.R. 6344, Responsive Government Act of 2008—this bill would provide the Federal courts and the Director of the Patent and Trademark Office, PTO, with needed emergency authority to delay judicial proceedings or statutory deadlines in the event of a natural disaster or other emergency situation which makes it impractical for parties, including the United States, to comply with certain filing conditions or to protect the rights and privileges of people affected by certain emergencies or a major disaster. We have recently observed how the ravages of natural disasters disrupt the lives of our fellow citizens, which can impede the ability to comply with strict statutory deadlines. Thus the Responsive Government Act provides critical flexibility to the courts and the PTO to help ameliorate the practical difficulties caused by these emergency situations.

S. 621, Wartime Treatment Study Act—this bill would establish two fact-finding commissions to supplement the work done in the 1980s by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and In-

ternment of Civilians, which studied the treatment of Japanese Americans during World War II. The act would create one commission to review the U.S. Government's treatment of German Americans, Italian Americans, and European Latin Americans during World War II, and another commission to review the U.S. Government's treatment of Jewish refugees fleeing Nazi persecution during World War II.

S. 2942, a bill to authorize funding for the National Advocacy Center—this bill would authorize the National District Attorneys Association to use the National Advocacy Center in Columbia, SC, for a national training program to improve the professional skills of State and local prosecutors and to enhance the ability of Federal, State, and local prosecutors to work together.

I hope that those Republican Senators who are holding up these measures will work with me by coming forward and letting me know what it is in the bill that they find objectionable. That way, we might be able to work something out to accommodate them. But when they object anonymously and do not come forward to work with us, it seems they are only interested in obstruction.

NOMINATION OF JAMES A. WILLIAMS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today I rise to express my opposition to the nomination of Mr. James A. Williams to be the Administrator of the General Services Administration, GSA. My concerns are based on my investigation of a dubious GSA contract with Sun Microsystems. In 2006 and 2007, my oversight staff conducted a thorough inquiry into the GSA Multiple Award Schedule contract with Sun Microsystems for computer products and services. GSA inspector general, IG, auditors had alerted GSA's top management of alleged fraud on this contract as early as 2005.

In 2006, Mr. Williams became the Commissioner of the GSA Federal Acquisition Service, FAS. His office was directly responsible for this questionable contract with Sun Microsystems. He and Administrator Doan were alerted to the alleged fraud and the referral of the matter to the Department of Justice, DOJ.

I previously made the findings of my inquiry known in a floor statement on October 17, 2007.

In a nutshell, all the evidence developed in my oversight investigation appears to indicate that top-level GSA management, including Administrator Doan and FAS Commissioner Williams, may have improperly interfered in the ongoing contract negotiations with Sun Microsystems in May–September 2006; and Administrator Doan and Mr. Williams pressured the GSA contracting officer to approve the new Sun contract even though they both knew that the IG had detected alleged fraud on the existing Sun contract and had