

ticipate on the national effort to restore the Statue of Liberty, our Nation's most precious symbol of liberty and freedom. Our replicas are used by the INS and other institutions around the United States of America. The company made a new advancement in the art field, developing new reproduction methods using acrylic. This technology is only available in the United States, which gave our country the advantage in the art field. In 1986, I applied for and obtained a patent on a new technique of embodiment for acrylic sculptures. In 1988, my new company, Colbar Art Inc., consisted of 5 employees developed new technique and reproduction methods.

In 1989, my new company, Colbar Art Inc., began a project with the Buddhist Association of America in Carmel, NY, a project to build the biggest statue of the Buddha in the United States of America, which will stand 37 feet high. This project created new jobs for the company, the largest of its type in the United States. The project took 3 years to complete. At present through my company's efforts, the jobs created over the time increased year after year. At the present time, the company employs more than 30 people, among them, many are immigrants.

At present, my company is the largest manufacturer of Statue of Liberty replicas in the United States and a large number of my employees are working to preserve the beauty of our symbol of freedom. At the same time, the company is manufacturing the best high quality limited edition reproduction of acrylic sculptures, which are made only in our company.

A new challenge faces American companies and the challenge comes from the emerging economic power with low labor costs. In order to be more competitive in this market, American companies must find people to employ on a priority basis which mean American companies must be able to employ the right person at the right time. Any delay could greatly affect the success or failure of the company. Despite the low labor costs on other countries, I chose to keep the jobs in my country, America, giving back something that she gave to me. I thank my country for the opportunity that was given to me. American companies must do everything possible to make jobs available primarily for our people first.

Mr. Chairman and subcommittee members, I thank you very much for your time and I hope my experience will be seen as a positive contribution of one immigrant who loves this country.

13TH ANNUAL TUFTONIA'S WEEK CELEBRATION AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, this week marks the 13th annual observance of Tuftonia's Week by Tufts University in Medford, MA, in which many Tufts alumni from around the world return to honor their outstanding university. This celebration has special meaning for me. My daughter, Kara, is a graduate of Tufts, and I've worked closely with many scholars at Tufts for many years on a wide variety of public policy issues. I am proud to count myself as a member of the Tufts family.

For the second year in a row, the theme of Tuftonia's Week is community service. Participants will honor the large number of Tufts graduates

across the country who are volunteering in their communities and helping to improve the lives of others in their neighborhoods through the TuftServe Program. Last year, Tufts alumni contributed more than 218,000 volunteer hours.

Tufts deserves great credit for its leadership among the Nation's universities in emphasizing service learning and providing opportunities for students to combine community service with their academic curriculum. Programs like TuftServe are the types of service initiatives that will be highlighted at the President's Summit for America's Future, beginning next Sunday, April 27. The summit will reaffirm our national commitment to community service. Every American should have the opportunity to participate in projects that help others and improve their community.

I congratulate Tufts for giving their students that opportunity. I am honored to take this opportunity to commend Tufts' President, John DiBiaggio, and the many others in the Tufts community for their impressive accomplishments in enhancing education and service.

LEGISLATION TO RESTORE ELIGIBILITY OF LEGAL IMMIGRANTS FOR SSI AND FOOD STAMPS

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, last year, the President and Congress enacted welfare legislation which I said was welfare repeal, not welfare reform. At that time, researchers at the Urban Institute estimated 2.6 million people would fall below the poverty line because of the legislation, 1.1 million of them children. The same researchers projected that 3.5 million children would be dropped from the rolls in 2001 because of the time limits contained in the legislation.

During the debate last year, there was little attention given to the provisions concerning the eligibility of legal immigrants for benefits. These immigrants have come to America legally. They pay taxes and serve in our military. Yet the new law eliminates the eligibility of these immigrants—should misfortune strike them—for SSI and food stamps, and it severely limits their eligibility for TANF and Medicaid. Many legal immigrants affected by these restrictions are elderly. In my own State of New York, they might be frail disabled survivors of the Holocaust, or refugees from the former Soviet Union who are about to lose their only means of support. This situation has come to our attention now because it is among the first parts of the bill to be implemented.

The President has proposed restoring eligibility for SSI to those legal immigrants who become disabled after entering this country. He has also proposed permitting refugees and asylees additional time before becoming sub-

ject to the various restrictions, in light of the difficult circumstances under which they arrive on our shores. I support these proposals, although I regret that enactment of the welfare repeal law has made this new legislation necessary.

I am pleased to join with colleagues of both parties in introducing legislation to continue SSI and food stamp benefits to those legal immigrants already receiving them and to permanently exempt refugees and asylees from the eligibility restrictions. This is a good first step in addressing the immediate and pressing needs of these immigrants, and I urge our fellow Senators to join us in this effort. It represents the beginning of a bipartisan discussion on how to address this issue, and I commend the legislation to the Senate.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 1997, the Secretary of the Senate on April 18, 1997, received a message from the President of the United States submitting a withdrawal and a nomination which was referred to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

The nomination received on April 18, 1997, is shown in today's RECORD at the end of the Senate proceedings.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 1997, the Secretary of the Senate, on April 18, 1997, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1003. An act to clarify Federal law with respect to restricting the use of Federal funds in support of assisted suicide.