

weak teaching that, despite good intentions, can result from a teacher's lack of opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skill needed to help students master the curriculum.

(4) The Federal Government established the Dwight D. Eisenhower Professional Development Program in 1985 to ensure that teachers and other educational staff have access to sustained and high-quality professional development. This ongoing development must include the ability to demonstrate and judge the performance of teachers and other instructional staff.

(5) States should evaluate their teachers on the basis of demonstrated ability, including tests of subject matter knowledge, teaching knowledge, and teaching skill. States should develop a test for their teachers and other instructional staff with respect to the subjects taught by the teachers and staff, and should administer the test every 3 to 5 years.

(6) Evaluating and rewarding teachers with a compensation system that supports teachers who become increasingly expert in a subject area, are proficient in meeting the needs of students and schools, and demonstrate high levels of performance measured against professional teaching standards, will encourage teachers to continue to learn needed skills and broaden teachers' expertise, thereby enhancing education for all students.

(c) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are as follows:

(1) To provide incentives for States to establish and administer periodic teacher testing and merit pay programs for elementary school and secondary school teachers.

(2) To encourage States to establish merit pay programs that have a significant impact on teacher salary scales.

(3) To encourage programs that recognize and reward the best teachers, and encourage those teachers that need to do better.

(d) STATE INCENTIVES FOR TEACHER TESTING AND MERIT PAY.—

(1) AMENDMENTS.—Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.) is amended—

(A) by redesignating part D as part E;

(B) by redesignating sections 2401 and 2402 as sections 2501 and 2502, respectively; and

(C) by inserting after part C the following:

"PART D—STATE INCENTIVES FOR TEACHER TESTING AND MERIT PAY

"SEC. 2401. STATE INCENTIVES FOR TEACHER TESTING AND MERIT PAY.

"(a) STATE AWARDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, from funds described in subsection (b) that are made available for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall make an award to each State that—

"(1) administers a test to each elementary school and secondary school teacher in the State, with respect to the subjects taught by the teacher, every 3 to 5 years; and

"(2) has an elementary school and secondary school teacher compensation system that is based on merit.

"(b) AVAILABLE FUNDING.—The amount of funds referred to in subsection (a) that are available to carry out this section for a fiscal year is 50 percent of the amount of funds appropriated to carry out this title that are in excess of the amount so appropriated for fiscal year 1999, except that no funds shall be available to carry out this section for any fiscal year for which—

"(1) the amount appropriated to carry out this title exceeds \$600,000,000; or

"(2) each of the several States is eligible to receive an award under this section.

"(c) AWARD AMOUNT.—A State shall receive an award under this section in an amount that bears the same relation to the total amount available for awards under this sec-

tion for a fiscal year as the number of States that are eligible to receive such an award for the fiscal year bears to the total number of all States so eligible for the fiscal year.

"(d) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds provided under this section may be used by States to carry out the activities described in section 2207.

"(e) DEFINITION OF STATE.—For the purpose of this section, the term 'State' means each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia."

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall take effect on October 2, 1999.

(e) TEACHER TESTING AND MERIT PAY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a State may use Federal education funds—

(A) to carry out a test of each elementary school or secondary school teacher in the State with respect to the subjects taught by the teacher; or

(B) to establish a merit pay program for the teachers.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the terms "elementary school" and "secondary school" have the meanings given the terms in section 14101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 8801).

HUTCHISON AMENDMENT NO. 2291

Mr. COVERDELL (for Mrs. HUTCHISON) proposed an amendment to the bill, H.R. 2646, supra; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE —EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

SEC. 01. EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY.

Subsection (b) of section 6301 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7351) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (7), by striking "and" after the semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (8), by striking the period and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(9) education reform projects that provide same gender schools and classrooms, as long as comparable educational opportunities are offered for students of both sexes."

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a joint hearing of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources and the House Committee on Education and the Workforce will be held on Wednesday, April 22, 1998, 10:30 a.m., in SD-106 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is "Proposed Individuals With Disabilities Education Act Regulations." For further information, please call the committee, (202) 224-5375.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a joint hearing of the Subcommittee on Public Health and Safety, Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources and Subcommittee on Health and Environment, House Committee on Commerce will be held on Thursday, April 23, 1998, 2:30 p.m., in SH-216 of the Senate Hart Building. The subject of the hearing is The Gift of Life: Increasing

Bone Marrow Donation and Transplantation. For further information, please call the committee, (202) 224-5375.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEE TO MEET

SUBCOMMITTEE ON YOUTH VIOLENCE

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Youth Violence, of the Senate Judiciary Committee, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, April 20, 1998, at 10:30 a.m. to hold a field hearing at the Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Court, 16th floor, 800 Broadway, Cincinnati, OH 45020 on: "Juvenile Courts of the 21st Century: Violent & Repeat Offenders."

The Presiding Officer. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY'S CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate one of Maryland's finest state institutions, Frostburg State University, on the occasion of its Centennial Anniversary.

Since its founding in 1898, Frostburg State University has been a primary component of the greater Frostburg community. Although small towns are often identified merely as extensions of the school in their midst, it is more the case that Frostburg State is a true extension of the town of Frostburg. In fact, the people of Frostburg themselves raised the funds that were used to buy the land on which the institution is located. This symbiotic relationship is one in which the Frostburg community provides the support system for the school and in turn, is enriched by the school and its students.

This unique relationship dates back to when the University was a small local teacher training institution named the State Normal School at Frostburg. Upon completing their training, students often stayed in the area and taught at regional elementary schools. This tradition of community participation continued as the school evolved into a State Teachers College in 1935 and finally, a multipurpose institution, Frostburg State University, in July of 1987, becoming a member of the University of Maryland System the following year.

While the commitment to teacher training remains at the core of Frostburg State's mission, the University has expanded its curriculum significantly to include the arts and sciences, professional and pre-professional programs, and graduate programs including business, psychology and biology training. Enrollment has grown from an initial class of 57 to over 5,200, and the University's degree program now requires four years of study.

It is important to note, however, that Frostburg State University occupies a unique educational niche as the only four-year institution west of the Baltimore-Washington metropolitan area. Therefore, it serves as the intellectual and cultural center for this western-most region of my State, and for nearby communities in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Although the student body includes students from various states and foreign countries, it continues to draw primarily from the immediate area, and provides important employment opportunities for the residents of the region. Furthermore, Frostburg State enjoys a partnership with the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) from whom they receive federal funds for various projects that enrich the school's resources and provide further economic development to the area.

It has always been my firm belief that a democracy cannot prosper and grow without an educated populace. As the world becomes increasingly complex and technically challenging, the quality education of the individual is one of the most important tasks in our society. From its inception, Frostburg State University has prioritized education; maintaining a commitment to providing community and educational services to the entire region while, at the same time, succeeding in providing a nationally acclaimed education to its own university community.

As we celebrate this important milestone, I would like to commend the greater Frostburg State University family for upholding the traditions of community cooperation and commitment to excellence that serve to exemplify the very best that Maryland has to offer.●

SCHOOR DEPALMA

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to salute Schoor DePalma Engineers and Design Professional Firm as it completes its thirtieth year in business, and to recognize its contributions to the State of New Jersey. This engineer and design professional firm has contributed to some of the state's largest engineering and design projects.

Schoor DePalma is one of the most widely recognized civil engineering firms in the State of New Jersey. The company's ingenuity brings forth a superior level of accountability, concern, and quality of work.

Schoor DePalma's commitment is easily also recognized through its selfless involvement with the community through entities, such as the Board of Professional Planners and the Board of Professional Engineers of the State of New Jersey and its participation in highly regarded academic programs such as the Board of Overseers for the New Jersey Institute of Technology, a variety of college foundations throughout New Jersey, and the awarding of scholarships to students in the engineering field.

One of Schoor DePalma's most recent and profitable contributions to the State of New Jersey was to enhance the economically distressed community of East Orange. Schoor DePalma was hired to conduct a comprehensive business analysis of the six main business districts of East Orange by looking at crime statistics, the labor force, the mix of businesses, infrastructure, and streetscaping needs. Schoor DePalma's innovative blue print for economic growth proved to be successful when some local establishments saw a remarkable 50 percent increase in business.

I am proud to recognize Schoor DePalma as a model corporate neighbor and I look forward to another 30 years of excellence from them.●

TRIBUTE TO FLORENCE KIRKNER

● Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I rise today to pay homage to Ms. Florence Kirkner. Today, we focus on Ms. Kirkner's 50 years of volunteering with the National Ski Patrol. The National Ski Patrol was formed 60 years ago as a volunteer organization that has been granted a Congressional Charter as a charity similar to the Boys and Girls Scouts. This organization formed an army division that could fight in winter weather conditions during World War II. Additionally, Senator Bob Dole was affiliated with this division which is known as the Tenth Mountain Division. This division was the only civilian run division in the Army's history. Today, the Tenth Mountain division is stationed at Fort Drum, New York.

I would also like to take this opportunity to commend Ms. Kirkner's participation in many other community activities such as the American Red Cross, the Girl Scouts and the YMCA.

After reviewing Ms. Kirkner's outstanding achievements, I decided an acknowledgment of her awards should be presented. Ms. Kirkner received a Citizen of the Week Award in 1996 and in 1997 she received the Citizen of the Year Award. Previously, because of Ms. Kirkner's excellent community service, she received the Merit Award in 1985 and the Volunteer of the year award in 1986. Ms. Kirkner was twice nominated for the Clara Barton Award in 1988 and again in 1990. Additionally in 1988, the Volunteer of the Year Award was acclaimed to Ms. Kirkner. Furthermore, after serving over 15,000 hours of community service, Ms. Kirkner was presented with the Service Award in addition to the 50 Year Service Award.

Ms. Kirkner has also received awards for the National Appointment #84, the Outstanding Service Award for the North Bay Region, the Patroller of the Year Award for the Western New York Region, 2 Yellow Merit Stars, the Purple Merit Star, the Avalanche Patch #82, the Eastern Division Certificate of Appreciation, the Red Cross Certificate of Merit, the Certificate of Appreciation for the Western New York Region, the Ambassador of the Slopes Award

for the Western New York Region, the Mike Reid Outstanding Instructor Award for the Western New York Region, the Canadian Ski Patrol Special Award and the Green Angel Award from the Girl Scouts.

I would also like to acknowledge Ms. Kirkner for holding numerous offices in her lifetime. She has held offices such as Co-Patrol Leader for Donner Ski Ranch; Regional Training Officer for Western New York; Regional First Aid Chairman in North Bay, California; Avalanche Instructor for National #224; ARC First Aid Instructor and Trainer; ARC CPR Instructor and Trainer; ARC Water Safety Instructor and Trainer; ARC Small Craft Safety Instructor and Shift Leader at Kissing Bridge Ski Patrol.

In addition Ms. Kirkner has managed to conduct training courses and workshops such as the Avalanche Patch Course in Slide Mt., Nevada; Sled Handling Seminars in Squaw Valley, California; the Mountain Rescue Course at the Sugar Bowl; Mountaineering at Circle M; Divisional Jr. Training Seminars for 11 years and National Jr. Training Seminars for 4 years. Moreover, Ms. Kirkner led Fall Forums workshops too numerous to count from New York City to Sacramento, from Portland, to Maine and has been an instructor every year of Patrol CPR since the beginning of Ski Patrol, CPR.

Ms. Kirkner is truly one of those unique individuals who has given a lifetime of community service. Her contributions to society will always be recognized as encouragement and hope to American citizens everywhere, and reminds us that the phrase "it is better to give than to receive" still rings to be true.●

VIETNAM VETERANS IN HYANNIS, MASSACHUSETTS

● Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I want to commend the extraordinary achievements of a group of Vietnam Veterans in Hyannis, Massachusetts. Five Vietnam Veterans from Cape Cod, Michael Trainor, Ray Pacheco, Woody Hoffman, Craig Morrison and Michael Williams, created the Nam Vets Association in 1983. Their mission, to provide human services to and improve the public image of Vietnam Veterans, has been courageously carried on, to this day, by John Eastman, Charlie Brown, John Ahern, Hank Tucker, Bill SilverRyder, and Randy Ritter. On Vietnam Veterans' Day, March 29, 1998, this group of dedicated men celebrated fifteen years of work on behalf of their fellow veterans. No organization provides more services to the veterans of Cape Cod and the Islands than the Nam Vets Association. It provides counseling services, housing assistance, a food pantry, employment programs, VA benefit information and, perhaps most important of all, a place where veterans and their families feel welcome. I know I did.

Mr. President, at the recent Vietnam Veterans of America Convention in