

(Better Educated Students for Tomorrow), to provide computer training, tutorial assistance, and other enrichment activities to students in Los Angeles' low income neighborhoods. Under the program, parents are able to voluntarily keep their children at school from 2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. each school day to learn and play. Today L.A.'s Best serves over 5,000 children each day, and has shown dramatic results in boosting students' academic achievement and self-esteem.

Mayor Tom Bradley shaped Los Angeles. He guided the City through enormous growth and change. His 20 years were marked by too many triumphs to count, and even in the bad times, during the devastating civil unrest that took place after the Rodney King verdict, his strong leadership and gentle demeanor brought Angelenos together to work for the common good. For many Angelenos, Mayor Bradley was a father figure: physically imposing at six-foot-four, and intellectually imposing as the sharp-minded, politically astute big city mayor, but always so warm and gentle that you instantly felt at ease when you talked with him. He was a great leader, but more than that, he was a great person. There are simply not enough people like him in politics.

Mr. President, I know that Tom Bradley will be remembered as one of the city's greatest and most beloved mayors. His loss is a blow to the City of Los Angeles. I know that I join all Angelenos today in sending my thoughts and prayers to his wife and daughters.●

SKIERNIEWICE, POLAND

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, five years ago, Mr. Irving Gross of Londonderry, Vermont returned to his father's birthplace, Skierniewice, Poland for the first time. During his trip he visited the city's Jewish cemetery. Like many other Jewish cemeteries in Poland, Skierniewice's had been destroyed by the Nazis and ravaged by time. The grounds were unkempt and monuments and headstones were broken, overturned or missing completely.

Today, through the efforts of Mr. Gross, Mr. Tadeusz Zwierzchowski, a former member of the Polish underground and a Skierniewice resident, and local Skierniewice authorities, the cemetery has been rehabilitated. It now stands as a memorial to the Polish Jews who perished under Nazi persecution and serves as a powerful reminder to the residents of Skierniewice of the vibrant Jewish culture that once enriched their city and their lives.

Mr. President, I would like to recognize all those who participated in this important effort to commemorate the role of the Jewish people in Polish culture and their plight during the Holocaust. In bearing witness to the past, the residents of Skierniewice have made a valuable contribution to their city's future.●

ACTON INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION AND LIBERTY

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a very important organization the state of Michigan. The Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty is a unique resource dedicated to prosperity and progress and based in the virtues of religious liberty, economic freedom, and personal moral responsibility. The Acton Institute works hand in hand with church leadership, educational institutions, and individuals in business and the ministry, both in the United States and abroad, to promote an understanding of market principles and to encourage the economic freedom that creates opportunity for all.

This organization has assisted both elected officials and scholars alike with its well written policy papers and newsletters. My colleagues and I truly appreciate their insight and dedication to the free market. The Acton Institute will be celebrating their eighth anniversary today, October 5, 1998 with their Annual Dinner Gala in Grand Rapids. The Institute's Board of Directors and the Eighth Anniversary Host Committee has a wonderful evening planned. It will undoubtedly be a great success.

I extend my best wishes and congratulations to Father Robert A. Sirico, and everyone involved in making the organization a tremendous success. I wish the Acton Institute continued prosperity.●

TRIBUTE FOR NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

● Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to more than 25,000 Minnesota fire fighters in their dedicated efforts to reduce the dangers of fire and the impact it has upon our society. Fire fighters play an integral role in the communities of Minnesota each day, but their dedication will be highlighted October 4-10, as we recognize National Fire Prevention Week.

Fire Prevention Week is the result of efforts by the Fire Marshals Association of North America, under the non-profit organization, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). The remembrance of the Great Chicago Fire of October 9, 1871 sparked the NFPA into action to increase public awareness of fire safety. It was not until 49 years later that President Woodrow Wilson issued an official proclamation declaring October 9 as National Fire Prevention Day. In 1922, President Warren Harding signed a proclamation pronouncing the Sunday-Saturday period in which October 9 falls a national observance.

Today, the goal of National Fire Prevention Week is to bring an awareness to the public to take an active role in fire prevention. Minnesota's dollar loss to fire last year totaled more than \$141 million. Experts tell us a commitment

to prevent fires before they occur is the only way to stop the significant loss of life and property from fire. For more than 70 years the NFPA has developed a theme motivating the public to actively participate in public education and fire prevention efforts. The theme for 1998 is "Fire Drills: The Great Escape."

Minnesota is working in conjunction with the NFPA and fire departments throughout the United States and Canada to implement the first-ever North American fire drill—"The Great Escape" on October 7. The Great Escape theme hopes to encourage citizens throughout North America to become actively involved in fire safety, specifically home escape planning and practice. Home fire escape planning and practice ensures that everyone in the household will know how to use what is often a small window of opportunity effectively and get out alive.

The 794 fire departments in Minnesota have been preparing for Fire Prevention Week by educating the public with guidelines and a map grid to help them design an escape plan. This awareness "Toolbox" has been distributed to schools and can be found at your local fire department. Their hope is to motivate people to think about fire safety in a positive, proactive way, and to start practicing their home escape plans regularly, at least twice a year.

School programs to teach children fire safety have always been an integral part of fire prevention. Minnesota will debut a Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program this month. The program will provide training to identify, educate, bring to justice, and offer avenues for referral and restitution to the juvenile firesetters in Minnesota's communities. This will be supported through regional task forces across the state. In addition to these activities, the Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division, in conjunction with Tandy Corporation (Radio Shack), has developed a "Free Smoke Detector Program." To aid in the detection of fires, 5,000 smoke detectors have been donated for installation in homes of at-risk individuals.

Mr. President, our fire departments have shown the highest level of dedication and service to protecting our homes and places of work from fire. I truly appreciate their unabated commitment to the safety of our communities and am honored today to pay tribute to the men and women of fire prevention.●

INTERNET TAX FREEDOM ACT

● Mr. FAIRCLOTH. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the Internet Tax Freedom Act. In recent years, Internet use has exploded, creating unprecedented opportunities for individuals and businesses. We must not allow a complicated patchwork of taxes to impede future opportunities.

Growth of the Internet has presented individuals with quick access to unlimited information. With an estimated 100 million users connected by year's end, its popularity is unmistakable.

Logically, entrepreneurs are catering to this growth through online sales. We are now seeing the online sale of books, airline tickets, and computer software. New companies are being created and old companies are adapting to provide products and services via the Internet. Companies such as Amazon.com and Dell computers are leading the way. Of course, large numbers of small businesses are focusing on Internet sales as well. Electronic Commerce generated an estimated \$8 billion last year and is projected to generate over \$300 billion in 2002.

Mr. President, we must not underestimate the benefits of such growth. It leads to the creation of new businesses and jobs. And while companies that do this well will reap tremendous rewards, consumers will be the ultimate winners. They will benefit from the convenience and efficiency of electronic commerce. Furthermore, growth in Internet sales will lead to increased competition, bringing consumer choice and lower prices. I, therefore, believe it's vital that we protect this emerging industry.

By placing a two-year moratorium on Internet access tax and discriminatory taxes on electronic commerce, the Internet Tax Freedom Act is a strong step in the right direction. I understand that many businesses may not have the resources or may choose not to engage in Internet sales. This bill doesn't discriminate against these companies by creating a tax haven for their competitors. It applies only to those taxes which specifically target the Internet. It, in effect, prevents discrimination against companies engaged in Internet sales.

Mr. President, the Internet Tax Freedom Act is a bipartisan bill which will ensure the vitality of our nation's electronic commerce. Today, I offer my full support for this commonsense legislation.●

STUDENT LOAN FLEXIBILITY

● Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, if I could have the attention of the distinguished chairman of the Committee, Senator JEFFORDS, I would like to engage him in a brief discussion of a proposal that was raised during Senate consideration of the higher education reauthorization bill.

As the chairman will recall, the managers' amendment offered during Senate consideration included sense-of-the-Senate language regarding the need for greater flexibility in federal student loan programs. Specifically, there were some of us interested in increasing the annual limits on unsubsidized loans while maintaining the aggregate limits, so that students could take greater advantage of federal loans available at lower interest rates. Un-

fortunately, a substantive amendment to advance that proposal was scored by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) as increasing mandatory spending, and adequate offsets could not be found.

My purpose in raising this matter again today is to elicit from the chairman an indication of his support for this loan flexibility proposal on a substantive policy basis, in the hope that, if we can ever find the additional resources necessary to cover its costs, we might enjoy the chairman's support in pressing for its enactment.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I agree with the Senator from New Hampshire that one of the main obstacles to the adoption of the loan flexibility proposal was the cost implications raised by CBO. In fact, budget considerations prevented us from making a number of beneficial changes in the Act which I know members would have liked to have provided. I am favorably disposed to the loan flexibility proposal on a substantive policy basis, and I am willing to continue to work with the Senator from New Hampshire and other interested parties to gain its enactment.

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I very much appreciate the chairman's comments and his support and look forward to our continued work together.●

300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF PENSACOLA, FL

● Mr. MACK. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of the 300th anniversary of the City of Pensacola, Florida. Although November 21, 1998 will mark the 300th anniversary of the continuous settlement of Pensacola, the origins of Pensacola are much older.

In 1559, Don Tristán de Luna y Arellano led the first authorized attempt to colonize what eventually became known as Pensacola. The first attempt at colonization failed, however, and the Spanish were forced to withdraw in 1561. The Spanish did not attempt to colonize the area again until 1698.

Since 1698, Pensacola has flown the Spanish flag, the French flag, the British flag, the Confederate flag, and the American flag over the City. Each flag left its mark upon the City and their historical presence is still evident today. Pensacola honors its heritage each year with the Fiesta of Five Flags celebration.

The presence of the United States Navy has also had an impact upon Pensacola. In the 1820s, a Navy Yard was established in Pensacola. The Navy Yard was closed in 1911, but in a few short years Pensacola was selected as the site of a "Naval flying school." Today, pilots still seek flight training at the Pensacola Naval Air Station which has been called the "Cradle of Naval Aviation."

Pensacola's deep and sheltered bay, sugar white beaches, friendly residents, and Southern hospitality continues to charm visitors today. Over the past

three hundred years, the community has hosted such visitors as General Andrew Jackson and entertainer Bob Hope.

On November 21, 1998, Pensacola will celebrate its 300th anniversary at the site of the former Spanish settlement which today is part of the Pensacola Naval Air Station. This historic event will be commemorated with a celebration which will include a parade and fireworks.

As a United States Senator from the State of Florida, it gives me great pleasure to wish the City of Pensacola a happy 300th anniversary. I wish the City of Pensacola all the best for a fun-filled celebration.●

COSPONSORSHIP OF S. 2426, THE UNIFORMED SERVICES FILING FAIRNESS ACT OF 1998

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to voice my support for Senate Bill 2426, "The Uniformed Services Filing Fairness Act of 1998." I believe this legislation will work to give much assistance to our men and women abroad in uniform. As we continue to ask for increased responsibilities from our servicemembers, let us not punish these same stewards with unfair tax return deadlines. Due to the remote deployment of many in the uniformed service, these tax deadlines become nearly impossible to meet. In my view, this presents the Senate with an opportunity to provide a measure of relief to servicemembers already stretched to their limits by those repeated and remote deployments.

In my view, this needed legislation is both fair-minded and fiscally responsible. I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this bill.●

SUBMITTING CHANGES TO THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ALLOCATION

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, section 314(b)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended, requires the Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee to adjust the appropriate budgetary aggregates and the allocation for the Appropriations Committee to reflect an amount provided and designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act.

I hereby submit revisions to the 1999 Senate Appropriations Committee allocation, pursuant to section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act, in the following amounts:

	Budget authority	Outlays
Current Allocation:		
Defense discretionary	271,570,000,000	266,635,000,000
Nondefense discretionary	255,634,000,000	265,414,000,000
Violent Crime reduction fund	5,800,000,000	4,953,000,000
Highways	21,885,000,000
Mass transit	4,401,000,000
Mandatory	299,159,000,000	291,731,000,000
Total	832,163,000,000	855,019,000,000