

for improving child care across the Nation. Parents should not have to join the service to receive good child care. High quality, affordable care is a basic necessity for all working families. It is my hope that we will take these lessons to heart and commit to ensuring that all children are given opportunities for the right start in life.

I would like to express my gratitude to Nancy Duff Campbell and Judith Appelbaum of the National Women's Law Center for their hard work on producing this valuable report and I would ask that a summary of the important "lessons learned" from their report be entered into the RECORD.

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

SIX LESSONS LEARNED

First, those seeking to make improvements in civilian child care should not be daunted by the task: the military has shown by its example that it is possible to take a woefully inadequate child care system and dramatically improve it over a relatively short period of time. If even a tradition-bound institution like the military can turn its child care system around, similar progress should be achievable in other settings.

Second, to achieve progress, it is necessary to acknowledge the seriousness of the child care problem and the consequences of inaction. Policy makers in Congress and the Department of Defense acted to reform military child care after extensive Congressional hearings and GAO reports not only exposed the poor state of military child care, but also documented two results: because the child care system was failing to meet the needs of a changing workforce it was jeopardizing workforce performance (and thus military readiness), and it was affecting the welfare of the children. Similar concerns about the unavailability of high-quality, affordable child care across the U.S. today—its impact on workforce performance, and the effects on the healthy development and learning of children—should prompt action to improve civilian child care.

Third, the quality of child care can be improved by focusing on establishing and enforcing comprehensive standards, assisting providers in becoming accredited, and enhancing provider compensation and training. The military has developed comprehensive standards that providers must meet in order to be certified to operate, and it ensures that these standards are met through a system of unannounced inspections and serious sanctions for failure to comply. It also assists providers in meeting the additional requirements necessary to become accredited by a nationally recognized program. It encourages parental involvement through parent boards, an "open door" policy, and an anonymous hotline for reporting problems. And it has increased provider compensation and training, and linked compensation increases to the achievement of training milestones. While some states have taken steps forward in one or more of these areas, on the whole the states have been far less effective in addressing these issues, and could benefit substantially from emulating the military's formula for success.

Fourth, child care affordability should be addressed through a system of subsidies. The military child care system keeps care affordable for parents through the use of a sliding schedule of fees based on parent income, as well as other subsidies. As a result, the average weekly fee paid by military families for

center-based care is significantly lower than the average weekly fee paid by civilian families for such care. In the civilian world, a patchwork array of government measures assists some families in meeting their child care expenses, but these policies are inadequate. Policy makers at both the federal and state levels should follow the military's example in making more resources available—as well as using the mechanisms it has used to distribute these resources—to help subsidize care for families who cannot afford to pay the full cost of good child care.

Fifth, the availability of care should be expanded. Although demand still far exceeds supply in the military system, the military has made significant progress in this regard by continually assessing unmet need and taking steps to address it through a comprehensive approach that includes all kinds of care: child care centers, family child care, and before and after-school programs, as well as resource and referral agencies to assist parents in locating care. Some states and localities have taken a variety of steps to expand the supply of child care, but the military's experience demonstrates, among other things, that it is essential to measure unmet demand and then develop a plan for meeting it with specific goals and timetables.

Sixth, improving the quality, affordability, and availability of child care is a costly proposition, and will succeed only if policy makers commit the resources necessary to get the job done. Through increased Congressional appropriations and allocations from within DoD resources, the funds provided for military child care have been climbing dramatically in recent years, making the turnaround in military child care possible. The same commitment of resources on the civilian side is not yet evident. An increased public investment is critical if the same progress is to be achieved in civilian child care. The military's experience shows, in short, that policy makers can be prodded into action by the acknowledgment of a serious child care problem, and that once they make child care a top priority and allocate the resources that are needed to address it, a seriously deficient system can be turned around. Those faced with the challenge of expanding access to affordable, high-quality child care across the United States today—policy makers, child care administrators, advocates, providers, parents, and others—should find encouragement in this conclusion. Inspired by the military's example, and armed with knowledge of the tools it used to achieve its successes, they need only to apply the lessons learned to make child care for all working families, like the child care provided to military families—to echo the Army's familiar jingle—"be all that it can be."

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to call for Senate action on reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. Earlier this week, the Supreme Court in its decision in *United States versus Morrison* struck a specific provision from the Violence Against Women Act of 1994. But that decision leaves intact the bulk of this landmark law. For the past five years, VAWA has funded and promoted significant innovations in federal, state and local programs to assist victims of violence, enhance prosecution of domestic violence and sexual assault crimes, and prevent violence against

women and children in their homes and on our streets. This support has enabled shelters, rape crisis centers, health care professionals, schools, police forces and communities across the country to address and prevent violence against women. I commend my distinguished colleague from Delaware, Senator BIDEN, for his authorship of the original Violence Against Women Act and for his commitment to ensuring that this important legislation is re-authorized.

Women across the nation, including in my home state of Wisconsin, have benefitted from this important legislation. Women's lives have been saved. Countless victims of domestic violence or sexual assault are receiving the services they need. Police are participating in training programs to arrest and bring abusers to justice. Both men and women are learning about the problem of domestic violence and sexual assault. In short, women are safer today because of this legislation.

Our nation's progress in preventing violence against women, however, is now in serious jeopardy. Authorization for the Violence Against Women Act ends this year. I understand that Senators BIDEN and HATCH have been working closely to craft a compromise re-authorization bill. I commend both of my colleagues for their commitment to this issue. But with only weeks remaining in this abbreviated session, I urge the Senate leadership to take action on this legislation without further delay.

EXPLANATION OF VOTES

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, yesterday, May 17, 2000, I was necessarily absent during rollcall votes 102, 103, and 104 in order to accompany the President of the United States to the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, and to meet with several mayors representing cities in southeastern Connecticut. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: yes on rollcall vote 102; yes on rollcall vote 103; yes on rollcall vote 104.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, May 17, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,671,580,132,464.01 (Five trillion, six hundred seventy-one billion, five hundred eighty million, one hundred thirty-two thousand, four hundred sixty-four dollars and one cent).

One year ago, May 17, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,587,730,000,000 (Five trillion, five hundred eighty-seven billion, seven hundred thirty million).

Five years ago, May 17, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,884,247,000,000 (Four trillion, eight hundred eighty-four billion, two hundred forty-seven million).

Ten years ago, May 17, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$3,093,688,000,000

(Three trillion, ninety-three billion, six hundred eighty-eight million).

Fifteen years ago, May 17, 1985, the Federal debt stood at \$1,751,773,000,000 (One trillion, seven hundred fifty-one billion, seven hundred seventy-three million) which reflects a debt increase of almost \$4 trillion—\$3,919,807,132,464.01 (Three trillion, nine hundred nineteen billion, eight hundred seven million, one hundred thirty-two thousand, four hundred sixty-four dollars and one cent) during the past 15 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RETIREMENT OF COLONEL WILLIAM "DAVE" MILLER

• Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, today I rise to honor Col. William "Dave" Miller upon his retirement from the U.S. Army and to thank him for his 27 years of faithful and honorable service to the Army and the Nation.

Serving in positions of increasing responsibility, Colonel Miller has displayed remarkable leadership and superb knowledge throughout his entire career. Colonel Miller's exceptional abilities were notably acknowledged when he was selected as Commander of the Data Systems Unit, White House Communications Agency. As the Commander, he was the driving force behind the development of a host of automation modernization programs, which significantly improved the crisis management decision process of the Nation and placed the Command upon the cutting edge of the information revolution. Colonel Miller routinely interacted with the National Security Council, White House Military Office, and the White House Staff. The consummate professional, he demonstrated the ability to work successfully with each of these offices and build consensus thereby ensuring mission success.

Upon completion of the Program Manager's Course, Colonel Miller served as the Commander of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Acquisition Information Systems Activity, where he directly supported the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research, Development and Acquisition. Colonel Miller introduced a myriad of initiatives that resulted in dramatic improvements in the daily operation of his organization. Chief among these was his ability to reduce base operations costs by 38 percent which translated into a yearly savings of over three hundred thousand dollars.

Colonel Miller culminated his career as the Commander of the United States Army Information Systems Software Center, a centrally selected Command with over 900 military and civilian personnel supported by over 400 contractors. He managed a budget of over \$115 million. Colonel Miller, a recognized leader in the acquisition and automation communities, did an exceptional

job of leading his command through a difficult period of downsizing and budget cuts while continuing to improve automation support to the Warfighter.

Colonel Miller is one of the Army's most outstanding automation officers. His selfless dedication, consummate professionalism, and visionary leadership have enabled him to lead his Command to unprecedented heights, eliciting praise from field commanders Army wide. He personifies the very best character attributes of the Officers' Corps. The Army will be greatly diminished the day that he retires.

I am honoring Colonel Miller today as a way of thanking him for his faithful and honorable service to the Army and to the citizens of the United States.●

KIDS DAY AMERICA/INTERNATIONAL

• Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to join Stefanou Chiropractic Centers in supporting the sixth annual Kids Day America/International event in Philadelphia on May 20, 2000. Stefanou Chiropractic is the official chiropractic office representing Kids Day America/International at the event, which will benefit the World Children's Wellness Foundation.

Kids Day America/International is a special day set aside to address health, safety and environmental issues. It was founded for the purpose of educating families and communities about important social concerns that affect us as individuals and as a community.

Our children represent the promise of a bright future, and we must uphold our obligation to nurture and protect them, providing them with the opportunity to learn, achieve, grow and succeed in a healthy and safe environment. Kids Day America/International is an opportunity to teach our children positive principles which will benefit them for a lifetime.

I would like to offer my best wishes to Stefanou Chiropractic Centers for a successful and educational event to be enjoyed by all. To honor this event, I put forward the following proclamation:

Whereas, the health and well-being of children is our responsibility; and

Whereas, the safety of our children is a significant concern for parents, community leaders and health care givers; and

Whereas, environmental welfare is of universal concern and deserves the utmost attention; and

Whereas, if started in childhood, proper health, safety and environmental habits can be maintained for a lifetime, producing a valued member of society, and enhancing our community;

Now, therefore, I urge my Senate colleagues to join me in proclaiming the 20th of May, 2000 as "Kids Day America/International."●

IN MEMORY OF JO-ANN MOLNAR

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I would like to share just a few words about a

good friend we recently lost, someone I have known since I first ran for Lieutenant Governor in Massachusetts in 1982, a good hearted and selfless individual who was always an inspiration, Jo-Ann Molnar. Jo-Ann recently passed away after bravely battling cancer, and I know that I am not alone in saying that as someone whose life was touched by Jo-Ann Molnar's service, activism, and warmth, there is today a deep and profound sense of loss. In Jo-Ann many of us have lost—and today I would like to honor—a committed activist, a person of enormous courage and character and, most simply, a great friend.

I first met Jo-Ann Molnar when I became involved in politics in the 1970s. Jo-Ann approached me at one of our earliest events and offered to help in any way she could. Jo-Ann was one of those individuals who—through her commitment to do what is right, through her belief in politics not as sport but as a fight for principle—could reaffirm precisely why politics matters and why public service is worthwhile.

Jo-Ann and I remained in touch ever since that first involvement, and I looked forward to and always appreciated Jo-Ann's warm cards and greetings. Always a loyal friend, Jo-Ann would share with me her thoughts on issues of importance, keep me abreast of her accomplishments, and offer me words of encouragement as I worked through the challenges of the United States Senate.

It was through her frequent cards and letters—and the occasional happy meeting either in Massachusetts or at political gatherings around the Maryland area—that I learned of the many ways in which Jo-Ann continued to dedicate herself to public service. Her determination to make a difference led her to remarkable achievements. In 1977, Jo-Ann graduated magna cum laude from Fairleigh Dickinson University, with a degree in history and political science. She went on to earn a master's degree in political science from American University. Jo-Ann selflessly offered her leadership to her fellow Democrats, serving admirably as President of the Montgomery County, Maryland Young Democrats, as Vice Chair of the Handicapped Commission in Montgomery County, and on the Board of Directors of the Montgomery County public libraries. In addition to her help with my campaigns, Jo-Ann served as a legislative intern to U.S. Senator Donald Reigle, U.S. Representative Gene Andrew Maguire, and Montgomery County Council member Michael L. Gudis. She also worked as a Congressional Liaison Assistant for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. For almost a decade, Jo-Ann served as a legal researcher for the Human Relations Commission. She gave of herself as a Sunday School teacher and a confirmation teacher at the Foundary United Methodist Church in Washington, D.C., as well as an instructor at Colesville United Methodist Church in Silver Spring, Maryland.