

world. Basic food security is one of those baseline conditions. We need strong partners, and the strength of the region is being sapped every day by hunger. Working with others to fight off starvation, and then to help strengthen food security systems to avoid future crises, must always be a priority. I will work with my colleagues and the administration to ensure that the United States finds a way to give food security issues throughout sub-Saharan Africa the attention that they deserve, and I urge my colleagues to support efforts to address the problem in the region.

#### LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Madam President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of last year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred July 31, 2001 in Browns Mills, NJ. Two white men attacked a black couple while they were sleeping in their home. The attackers beat the victims with baseball bats, causing severe cuts and broken bones. Neighbors said that the assailants had previously indicated their intention to "beat up" the victims, and used racial slurs to describe them.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

#### THE COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES PROGRAM

Mr. FEINGOLD. Madam President, I rise today in support of the Community Oriented Policing Services program, commonly known as COPS. The COPS program was established in 1994, due in large part to the efforts of my distinguished colleague from Delaware, Senator BIDEN, and the support of then President Clinton. Since its inception, the program has greatly enhanced community oriented policing across the Nation. The COPS program has facilitated the hiring and training of over 116,000 police officers who help keep our communities safe. I am especially pleased that this program has been a shining example of an effective partnership between local and Federal Governments. It provides Federal assistance to meet local objectives without imposing mandates or interfering with local prerogatives, and it provides federal dollars directly to the police departments and communities.

COPS has had a positive and very tangible impact on communities throughout the country, including in

my home State of Wisconsin, by putting more police officers on our streets and making our citizens safer. In the State of Wisconsin alone, COPS has funded over 1,300 new officers by contributing more than \$100 million to communities.

The effects of community-based policing cannot be understated. The COPS program has succeeded because it helps individual officers to be a friendly and familiar presence in their communities. They are building relationships with people from house to house, block to block, school to school. Community policing helps law enforcement to do their job better, makes our neighborhoods and schools safer, and, very importantly, gives residents peace of mind. Increasing the number of local law enforcement on the streets and in our neighborhoods fosters an environment of mutual respect between officers and their neighbors, and community pride from home to school to fire station to corner store. Reducing crime and keeping our communities safe has been and should continue to be a top priority for all of us. As the tragic events of September 11 have shown our Nation, local police officers play a vital role to protect and secure our communities. We should give them the support they need.

As I travel through Wisconsin and talk to sheriffs, police chiefs and other law enforcement officers, I hear the same refrain, time after time: the COPS program is vital to their work and has enabled them to get more officers out from behind their desks and onto the streets. Wisconsin is not alone. Since 1994, the COPS program has provided funding for thousands of law enforcement agencies across the country, and has expanded to include the COPS in Schools Program and the COPS Tribal Resources Program, and now funds the Community Policing to Combat Domestic Violence grants.

As the COPS program has grown, crime rates have decreased. But in order to maintain a low crime rate, we must continue to provide the necessary resources. The COPS program gives us an opportunity at the federal level to send a strong signal of support back to local police officers that we value community-oriented policing as integral to the protection and safety of all Americans.

We have taken up funding for the COPS program in this body numerous times since its inception. I am pleased that the Judiciary Committee reported favorably a bill calling for its re-authorization this spring, the PROTECTION Act, S. 924, introduced by Senator BIDEN. I commend and thank Senator BIDEN for his leadership on this issue. I was very pleased to support his bill re-authorizing the COPS program in Committee, and I urge the full Senate to work to ensure that the COPS program is authorized again before we adjourn.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO THE OAKLAND ATHLETICS

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, there are times when the achievements of an individual athlete or sports team are so dramatic, so sensational and exciting, that the entire country stops what it is doing to simply watch in wonder. The sport of baseball, in particular, has supplied us with many such moments over the years.

I recall the thrill of Joe DiMaggio's 56-game hitting streak; Bobby Thompson's "Shot Heard Round The World" home run; pitcher Don Larsen's perfect World Series game; Hank Aaron's 715th trip around the bases; Cal Ripken Jr.'s 2,131st consecutive game; and Barry Bond's 71st home run of the season. All of these milestones are embedded in America's sports memory.

There is another baseball milestone that I believe deserves a place in the pantheon of remarkable sporting achievements, an accomplishment as exciting as Carlton Fisk's 12th inning World Series home run or "The Catch" by Willie Mays in another, earlier World Series. That accomplishment, Mr. President, is the 20-game, American League record winning streak set this season by the Oakland Athletics—the longest win streak in baseball in 67 years.

Until the Oakland Athletics rewrote the American League record book, many had considered the 19-game win streak record held jointly by the New York Yankees and the Chicago White Sox to be untouchable. Indeed, there are only three teams in the entire history of baseball—the New York Giants, the Chicago Cubs, and now the Oakland Athletics—that have ever won 20 or more games in a row.

This summer, baseball fans from around the world were caught up in the excitement as the Athletics continued to win game after game after game. At work, in the car, and at home, and regardless of time zone, Americans watched with fascination as the Oakland Athletics approached the magic number of 20 victories. I shared in that growing sense of excitement and cheered along with the rest of the country when the team set the new record on September 4th.

My hat is off to the Oakland Athletics, to the players and staff, Manager Art Howe, and to the fans. I know how proud the Oakland community is of its team, and of a win streak record that is one for the ages. With this amazing achievement, the 2002 Oakland Athletics have secured a special place in baseball history and lore.●

##### TRIBUTE TO MICKIE PAILTHORP

• Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise today to share with the Senate a tribute to Mickie Pailthorp, a leader in my home State of Washington who passed away on July 31, 2002. On August 8, I was honored to speak at a memorial service for Mickie, and today I want to