

the scourge of AIDS won't be easy and it won't be cheap.

That's why the U.S. needs to make a real contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. The \$500 million the U.S. has pledged to the fund falls far short of the \$7 billion it will need over the next two years to carry out its critical mission. We can do better. We must.

America also needs to encourage concerted international action beyond these important monetary contributions. HIV/AIDS is not a unilateral threat. The world must make a sustained, comprehensive global effort to provide a coordinated program of treatment, care and prevention. Together, we must combine the best of our values, service, technology, expertise and diplomacy to fight the great international menace of HIV/AIDS.

The United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 is a good step toward this goal. I applaud President Bush for joining our cause by proposing an Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, a new mission to help countries in Africa and the Caribbean region address the HIV/AIDS pandemic by providing money, expertise and training. This measure recognizes the critical link between HIV/AIDS care, treatment, prevention, and education efforts. It also responds to the need for health care systems that actually provide the right treatment.

I'm proud to vote for this bill because I see as a culmination of our efforts here in the Senate to make this issue less about partisanship, and more about people. I've fought for so many years to provide a more adequate response to HIV/AIDS. I commend my colleagues for uniting in this effort.

There are certainly provisions in this bill that concern me. I've voted to try to change some of them. But I'm not going to let those concerns stand in the way of my support for a stronger U.S. and international response to the AIDS pandemic. While this bill is not perfect, it is a good start that may save millions of lives.

By passing this bill, the United States is taking real action to live up to its responsibilities as the strongest country in the world. We can show that we really do care about improving the lives and futures of people in the developing world. The American people should be proud of this American leadership.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

(The bill will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I thank all Senators for their diligence and faithfulness in working to this late hour. I thank our leader, Senator FRIST; likewise, Senator DASCHLE. I always appreciate working with my col-

league, Senator BIDEN. We have a good relationship on the committee, and we are very appreciative that the Senate has given us this bill this evening.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator move to reconsider the vote?

Mr. LUGAR. I move to reconsider the vote, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, what we have just done is significant in many ways. We have addressed for the first time in a comprehensive way one of the greatest humanitarian, moral, and public health challenges this country has ever seen, and, I would argue, the greatest humanitarian challenge we have had to face in the last 100 years.

We addressed this health challenge in a comprehensive way. We addressed it with an authorization for \$15 billion over 5 years. It was just a few years ago we were spending a total of \$100 million a year, and now it is going to be approximately \$3 billion a year.

As has been stated again and again over the course of the evening, the afternoon, and around lunch when we first began talking on the bill, what we have done is shown that the United States is not just a good nation but is indeed a great nation, that we will lead in the global fight against this destructive virus that has killed 23 million people, that is affecting the lives of over 45 million people today, and that, as we have said today, will likely take the lives of 60 million others and will create probably another 40 million orphans over the next two decades.

This is our first step. I congratulate the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee for bringing us to this point. Many of us have been working for 3, 4, and 5 years even to bring us to this point. I thank him for his tremendous leadership in accomplishing this goal.

I will be happy to yield to my colleague, Senator ENZI.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I congratulate everybody who was involved in the bill. This was not easy work. There were a lot of different personalities and opinions. It is a huge issue with a lot of detail. There is a lot of room for error and misunderstandings and different amendments.

I am so pleased that people on both sides of the aisle worked through all the difficulties, both ends of the building worked through all the difficulties, and that we arrived at this position.

I particularly congratulate the majority leader for the outstanding job he has done through all the years he has worked on AIDS. This would not have come to our attention and a vote tonight if it had not been for the diligence of Senator FRIST.

I also thank the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee for all the

work he has done on the bill. He has been through more variations of this bill than almost anybody, except Senator FRIST, and was willing to find a position that would get this bill passed. He did that in the best kind of spirit and took some stands against a bill that had his name on it. That is very difficult work for a Senator to do, and he did it in the best spirit of making sure we were taking care of the work.

It is one of the more universal bills we have done since I have been in the Senate.

I congratulate everyone for coming together and finishing this bill.

MEASURE RETURNED TO THE CALENDAR—S. 1054

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that S. 1054 be placed back on the calendar.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—NOMINATION OF S. MAURICE HICKS, JR., TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 19, the Senate proceed to executive session and a vote on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 172, S. Maurice Hicks, Jr., to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Louisiana. I further ask unanimous consent that following that vote, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period for morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

U.S.-TURKEY RELATIONS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the letter I just received, as President pro tempore, from the Prime Minister of Turkey be printed in the RECORD. The Prime Minister discusses the importance of the Turkish-U.S. partnership and shares his views regarding the recent developments in Iraq. He calls upon "the distinguished members of the U.S. Congress to work hand-in-hand with their Turkish colleagues to further strengthen the cooperation and solidarity between our two countries . . .".

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

REPUBLIC OF TURKEY,
Ankara, April 2, 2003.

Hon. TED STEVENS,

President pro tempore of the Senate, Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.

I take the liberty of writing you to share my views concerning the recent developments in Iraq and the future of the Turkish-U.S. partnership.

Turkey and the United States maintain a partnership. It is a friendship that has withstood the test of time and events for over half a century. This partnership is unique as it is precious and has flourished on its own merits. It is firmly rooted in the common values and interests, and a long history of friendship.

When the United States called on our help in the defense of freedom in Korea we were there. Indeed, our forces sustained high casualties to help to liberate this country. We joined forces in NATO since 1952. Turkey was in the frontline in this successful struggle. More recently, we were again on the same side in the Balkans, a region which now enjoys stability and progress. When Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait, Turkey stood firm with the United States in confronting and containing Iraq. When terror struck the United States, we shared the deep grief of the American people and displayed full solidarity. Our partnership has been global in reach, covering the Middle East, Somalia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Afghanistan, as well as the Caucasus and Central Asia, where we are involved in contributing to democracy, peace and stability. The solidarity between the U.S. and Turkey, the only western democracy in the Muslim world, has reassured the world that a global clash of civilizations will remain an unfulfilled prophecy. Had there been no such partnership between Turkey and the United States, both our countries would now be striving to establish it. Instead, we have a history of partnership that warrants even better days.

This brings me to the current question of Iraq, which has created certain sensitivity. I should stress two fundamental points in a bid to set the record straight.

The first point refers to an injustice sometimes done in assessing Turkey's support in the war. Turkey has a vibrant democracy and the overwhelming majority of the Turkish people is against war. Their reflexes are shaped by the fact that the Iraqi people, including Arabs, Kurds, Turcomans and others will continue to be our neighbors long after the end of military operations. At the same time, the Turkish people have paid untold social and economic costs on account of the last Gulf War. We have suffered economic hardship and had to face hundreds of thousands of refugees from northern Iraq. PKK/KADEK terrorism, which claimed more than thirty thousand lives, was able to breed in such an environment. We cannot afford a replay of those.

It was precisely due to the expression of this public anxiety over yet another war that the elected representatives in our parliament could not muster the necessary votes to approve the government decree involving the basing of U.S. troops in Turkey. Nonetheless, in a subsequent vote our parliament did approve extensive overflight rights for the U.S. and coalition forces. Given that Turkey is bordering Iraq, one has to accept that this is not an ordinary but a substantive contribution. Furthermore, cooperation that did not require parliamentary approval was underway even months before the beginning of hostilities and continues to date, in various forms. The relevant U.S. authorities are fully aware of this. We have indeed provided whatever we could.

The second point concerns the role wrongly envisaged by some, for Turkey, that is

confined to providing a mere geographical launching pad for military operations. Indeed, Turkey's role and the essence of Turkish-U.S. partnership are far more fundamental. Turkey is one of the leading partners of the United States in winning the peace in Iraq and the broader Middle East.

At the end of the military operations both Turkey and the U.S. would want to see an Iraq that is whole and free. We have been advocating a transition in Iraq towards a peaceful state, disarmed of weapons of mass destruction, with its territorial integrity intact, and in which all segments of the populations take part in administering their common state and enjoying equitably the benefits of their rich natural resources. This is our joint vision and aspiration.

A couple of lessons also can be derived from the recent event. We must exert even greater efforts together to promote the Turkish-U.S. partnership. On her part, Turkey is committed to working with U.S. to take our partnership to new heights. The potential of our strategic partnership is unlimited. From our bilateral political, military and increasingly economic cooperation, to our solidarity in shaping a peaceful and stable state of affairs in our volatile region, and combating the scourge of terrorism, on all these issues the partnership between Turkey and the United States has much to offer. As the only predominantly Muslim country which is firmly and irreversibly embedded in the western world, Turkey has unique capabilities to help promote security and stability in the Middle East and beyond, so that all countries in the region including Israel and Palestine will enjoy lasting peace. Our democratic and secular values provide a model to the world to obviate a clash of civilizations. The United States has been and remains to be our valued partner in this common endeavor.

What is more, the recent developments and events have underlined once again the need to forge a greater dialogue among our legislators in a bid to better understand each other's priorities, expectations and constraints.

Therefore, as we look to the future, I call upon all the distinguished members of the U.S. Congress to work hand-in-hand with their Turkish Colleagues to further strengthen the cooperation and solidarity between our two countries and nations to fulfill the great promise of the Turkish-U.S. strategic partnership.

Sincerely,

RECEP TAYYIP ERDOĞAN,
Prime Minister.

THE "SPAM" PROBLEM AND ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

Mr. LEAHY: Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the problem of junk commercial e-mail, commonly known as "spam." It is increasingly apparent that spam is more than a just a nuisance: It has become a serious and growing problem that threatens to undermine the vast potential of the Internet.

America's businesses and America's homes are flooded with millions of unwanted, unsolicited e-mails each day. A recent study by Ferris Research estimates that spam costs U.S. firms \$8.9 billion annually in lost productivity and the need to purchase ever more powerful servers and additional bandwidth to try to stay ahead of the spammers; to configure and run spam filters; and to provide helpdesk support

for spam recipients. The costs of spam are significant to individuals as well, including time spent identifying and deleting spam, inadvertently opening spam, installing and maintaining anti-spam filters, tracking down legitimate messages mistakenly deleted by spam filters, deleting spam that is not caught by filters, and paying for Internet Service Providers' blocking efforts.

In my home state of Vermont, one legislator recently found that two-thirds of the 96 e-mails in his inbox were spam. And this occurred after the legislature had installed new spam-blocking software on its computer system that seemed to be catching 80 percent of the spam. The Assistant Attorney General in Vermont was forced to suggest to computer users the following means to avoid these unsolicited commercial e-mails: "It's very bad to reply, even to say don't send anymore. It tells the spammer they have a live address. The best thing you can do is just keep deleting them. If it gets really bad, you may have to change your address." This experience is echoed nationwide. The FTC's recent spam forum underscored the magnitude and complexity of the problem.

Twenty-nine States now have anti-spam laws, but the globe-hopping nature of e-mail makes these laws difficult to enforce. Technology will undoubtedly play a key role in fighting spam, but a technological solution to the problem is not likely in the foreseeable future. ISPs block billions of unwanted e-mails each day, but spammers are winning the battle.

In addition, given the speed with which spammers adapt to anti-spam technologies, the development and dissemination of such technologies is not cheap. Why should businesses and individuals be forced to invest large amounts of time and money in buying, installing, troubleshooting and maintaining new generations of anti-spam technologies?

The problems posed by junk e-mail are real, with substantial consequences for Internet users and service providers alike. I am working with other members of the Judiciary Committee, on both sides of the aisle, to arrive at an appropriate solution.

I have often said that Congress must exercise great caution when regulating in cyberspace. Any legislative solution to spam must tread carefully to ensure that we do not impede or stifle the free flow of information on the Internet. The United States is the birthplace of the Internet, and the whole world watches whenever we decide to regulate it. Whenever we choose to intervene in the Internet with government action, we must act carefully, prudently, and knowledgeably, keeping in mind the implications of what we do and how we do it. And we must not forget that spam, like more traditional forms of commercial speech, is protected by the First Amendment.

At the same time, we must not allow spam to result in the "virtual death"