

2,098 in 2001. Racial bias again represented the largest percentage of bias-motivated incidents (44.9 percent), followed by Ethnic/National Origin Bias (21.6 percent), Religious Bias (18.8 percent), Sexual Orientation Bias (14.3 percent), and Disability Bias (0.4 percent).

While many of these crimes do and should get prosecuted at the State and local levels, many do not. Current law limits Federal jurisdiction over hate crimes to incidents that occur during the exercise of federally protected activities, such as voting, and does not permit Federal involvement in a range of cases involving crimes motivated by bias against the victim's sexual orientation, gender or disability. This loophole is particularly significant given the fact that four States have no hate crime laws on the books, and another 21 States have extremely weak hate crimes laws.

If enacted, this legislation would give the Federal Government the jurisdictional tools necessary to assist local law enforcement in fighting the scourge of hate violence. In instances where State and local governments do not have the capacity to prosecute such crimes, the legislation creates a Federal backstop—the ability for the local U.S. attorney to ensure that justice will be done, deterring hate violence regardless of whether the victim happened to be engaged in a “federally protected” activity. And even in those cases, Federal prosecution can only proceed if approved by the Attorney General.

The gruesome, hateful murders of James Byrd and Matthew Shepard remain symbols of the incidence of hate violence that have only worsened since their deaths. Hate crimes do not only visit unspeakable violence on the immediate victims, but also send a message of a desired apartheid that its sponsors want to violently enforce.

The Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2004 is a constructive and measured response to a problem that continues to plague our Nation—violence motivated by prejudice. Our primary desire here is to ensure that these crimes get prosecuted by State and local governments more effectively. That's why the bill authorizes funds to support State investigative and prosecutorial efforts. The bill is not and should not be treated as a partisan exercise. As a Congress, we should be in unanimous agreement that there will be “zero-tolerance” for the hate. This bill takes the first step in that direction.

ON THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF CALVARY CATHEDRAL INTERNATIONAL, THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PASTOR BOB NICHOLS' MINISTRY, AND THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF PASTOR AND MRS. NICHOLS

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding church, an outstanding pastor and a great couple in my district. On Sunday, April 18, 2004 Calvary Cathedral International celebrates the 40th anniversary of its founding by Pastor Bob Nichols

and his wife, Joy. On this day, Pastor Nichols also celebrates his 50th anniversary in full time ministry and the upcoming 50th wedding anniversary of Pastor Nichols and Joy.

Through Calvary Cathedral, Pastor Nichols and Joy touch the lives of thousands of people not only in Fort Worth, but throughout the world. With integrity and outstanding character, Pastor Nichols and Joy daily help the less fortunate and hungry, as well as the many people who make up their congregation.

To appreciate the high esteem in which Calvary Cathedral and Pastor and Mrs. Nichols are held today, one must understand the humble beginnings from which they come.

In 1964, after 10 years in full time ministry, God called Pastor Nichols to start a church where all faiths were welcome and members of the church could grow in faith. With no members or financial resources, Pastor Nichols started Calvary Cathedral in an old post office building. By 1976, Calvary Cathedral had grown to the point that the congregation purchased a historic, 2,000-seat church on the banks of the Trinity River. That site was home to Calvary until it was destroyed by a tornado on March 28, 2000. In 2001, Calvary elected to purchase the Midtown Church of Christ facility. The existing facilities and property, as well as the construction of a new facility for the Calvary Christian Academy, is enabling Pastor Nichols, Joy and the congregation to reach out to even more people.

As pastor and president of Calvary Cathedral International, Pastor Nichols administers a wide range of ministries that includes the Calvary Christian Academy, the Calvary Day Care, Calvary Cathedral International Bible School, the Calvary daily Faith, Hope and Love radio show, the Calvary jail and prison ministry, the Stitches central city outreach program and a foreign missionary outreach. Through Lighthouse Television, Ltd., Pastor Nichols reaches out with his message to residents of Uganda. Not only does Pastor Nichols use the blessing of Calvary Cathedral to reach out to people, he is renowned for his stewardship to other ministers, which has earned him the title “Pastor to Pastors.”

Pastor Nichols and Joy demonstrated their deep faith and their trust in God to carry forth during the Tornado of 2000 by being positive about the tragedy that struck the church and the Fort Worth community that day. They used the disaster to instill hope and trust among church members and Fort Worth residents, alike.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize a church that has contributed so much to not only Fort Worth, but to the world. And it is my honor to praise the leadership and compassion that Pastor Nichols and his wife Joy have exhibited during their 40 years of ministry at Calvary Cathedral International.

INVESTING IN OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for investment in the infrastructure that provides our citizens with clean and safe water. Our Nation's com-

munities are facing enormous needs in their effort to safeguard human health and the environment and to comply with Federal environmental mandates. The wastewater investment needs in our cities, counties, towns and townships are far greater than the amount of money now being made available at the local, state, and federal levels. The GAO, the EPA and the Water Infrastructure Network have all found shortfalls in wastewater infrastructure funding over the next 20 years in the hundreds of billions of dollars.

It is critical for the federal government to do more to help meet these needs. Local ratepayers already pay 90 percent of the burden and face rising water and sewer rates every year. The federal government must once again become a partner with local and state governments to provide the necessary funds to protect our watersheds and citizens.

Additional investment in the Nation's water and sewer systems also creates jobs for Americans. For every \$1 billion spent on water and wastewater construction, 42,000 jobs are created. Billions of dollars are needed to help keep our water infrastructure strong and sound. The President requested \$3.7 billion for water and sewer projects in Iraq, highlighting its critical importance to a working society. Yet we are neglecting our own wastewater systems here at home.

We should not allow another Earth Day to pass without making a firm commitment to our citizens and our communities. The federal government must become a full partner and provide its share of the billions of dollars that are needed to safeguard the integrity of our Nation's water and wastewater infrastructure.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENT OIL PRODUCERS' AGENCY

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Independent Oil Producers' Agency IOPA, which IOPA will be celebrating on April 30. Specifically, I want to congratulate them for all that they have accomplished and to wish them well as they begin their second century.

Many people do not realize the incredible amount of oil and natural gas production in the State of California and particularly Kern County, which I represent. The magnitude of California's production is apparent when one considers that in 2002, California's 210 active fields and 47,135 wells produced 289.5 million barrels of oil, more than every state but Louisiana, Texas, and Alaska. It is also apparent when one considers that over 26.8 billion barrels of oil have been extracted from California wells and that California's estimated oil reserves are 3.7 billion barrels. In addition, in 2002, California's 1,232 natural gas wells produced 366 billion cubic feet of natural gas, and California's cumulative natural gas production is 37.1 trillion cubic feet. It is hardly an overstatement to say that California's energy production has been and is vital to the American economy.

However, none of this incredible production would have been realized without the hard