

During this Public Service Recognition Week, I urge my colleagues to take a moment to appreciate advances such as these that our Nation and society have made as a result of the hard work of Federal civil servants. When President Kennedy initially released his Peace Corps proposal, the reactions he received convinced him that "we have, in this country, an immense reservoir of such men and women—eager to sacrifice their energies and time and toil to the cause of world peace and human progress." Things have not changed. The American populace is still full of men and women who want to serve. The challenge for us, as a Congress and a Federal Government, is to convince more of those men and women that civil service is a laudable way to serve their country.

#### RESCUE COST ANALYSIS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the executive summary and recommendations of the following August 2001 Report to Congress titled: "Analysis of Cost Recovery for High-altitude Rescues on Mt. McKinley, Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska" be printed in the RECORD.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY—ANALYSIS OF COST RECOVERY FOR HIGH-ALTITUDE RESCUES ON MT. MCKINLEY, DENALI NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE, ALASKA, AUGUST, 2001

#### INTRODUCTION

The following report addresses the requirements of Public Law 106-486 enacted November 9, 2000, directing the National Park Service to complete a mountain climber rescue cost recovery study by August 9, 2001. This report describes the role of the National Park Service and Denali National Park and Preserve (DNP&P) in search and rescue activities and analyzes the suitability and feasibility of recovering the costs of high-altitude rescues on Mt. McKinley. It addresses the three items required in the legislation.

(1) Recovering the costs of rescues on Mt. McKinley.

(2) Requiring climbers to provide proof of medical insurance before the issuance of a climbing permit.

(3) Charging for a climbing permit and changing the fee structure. This report was prepared with existing funds.

A variety of organizations and individuals were involved in the development of this report. They included: the National Park Service, Alaska Regional Office and Washington Office; American Alpine Club; 210th Alaska Air National Guard; U.S. Army at Fort Wainwright; Mountain Guide Concessionaires; Access Fund; Alaska Mountain Rescue Association; Alaska State SAR Coordinator; Providence, Valley, and Alaska Regional Hospitals; Mountain Rescue Association; and the Alaska Mountaineering Club.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

After a thorough analysis of the suitability and feasibility of cost recovery, this report recommends the following:

*Part One: The Suitability and Feasibility of Rescue Cost Recovery*

1. Based on the relationship of DNP&P to the national program for National Park

Service search and rescue, the relationship to the practices of other agencies, the practices of the military, and the practices of the State of Alaska, the Park Service recommends that the current policy of not charging for search and rescue be continued. If the other federal agencies and the military develop a policy for the collection of search and rescue costs from participants in high risk activities, the National Park Service should also participate. This would best be done through the passage of legislation that applies to all federal agencies and branches of the military that currently rescue members of the public in need.

2. To reduce National Park Service costs related to evacuation of injured climbers, the park will work with Providence Hospital in Anchorage regarding additional operation by the hospital of its Lifeguard helicopter to transport injured climbers from the 7,200-foot base camp on Mt. McKinley. Like most ambulance services, the hospital bills the patient directly for the service. This would reduce the use of military and NPS helicopters for a service that can be provided by a private entity.

*Part Two: Suitability and Feasibility of Requiring Proof of Medical Insurance*

1. The review of incidents shows no information indicating a problem of any magnitude. DNP&P, therefore, recommends not requiring proof of medical insurance at this time. DNP&P will continue to monitor with the hospitals and work with insurance companies to determine if a need exists in the future to require proof of insurance. If proof of medical insurance were to be made a new requirement, it would be best to set the precedent consistent across agencies and different types of high-risk activities.

2. DNP&P will encourage climbers to carry medical insurance and will provide information with registration packets and pre-climb briefings about access to providers specializing in climbing insurance.

*Part Three: Climber Registration Fee Review*

1. In order to help recover costs for the human waste management studies, an additional \$50.00 fee should be added to the current \$150.00 climber registration fee. The total fee for climbing Mt. McKinley or Mt. Foraker would then be \$200.00.

2. Currently, only climbers of Mt. McKinley and Mt. Foraker are required to register. Initiate required registration for all other climbers in DNP&P. This would help ensure all climbers receive safety and waste management information.

#### LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

Christopher Hutcherson of Biloxi is accused of capital murder in the January stabbing death of John Brown Smith III, 39, of Fort Walton Beach, FL. A detective testified that Hutcherson told investigators that he stabbed Smith because the retired military man made sexual advances while holding a gun on him. The detective said Smith and Hutcherson were at an adult video arcade, known as a

gay pick-up place, the morning of the killing. Hutcherson told investigators that he left the video store and went to Smith's nearby hotel room. The two men drank alcohol before leaving the hotel in Smith's pickup. Smith's body was later found on the rural road by a passerby.

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 is 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.

#### U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL WMD RESOLUTION

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, speaking before the UN General Assembly in September, President Bush asked the Security Council to take a firm stand against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, WMD. President Bush asked for a Security Council resolution that would call on all nations to criminalize proliferation, enact strict export controls and secure these terrible weapons within their own borders.

Seven months later, on April 28, the UN Security Council unanimously passed Resolution 1540 fulfilling the President's goals. Those who have argued that this administration has turned its back on the international community need only look at the diverse group of nations—from Algeria to Angola, Chile to China, Pakistan to the Philippines—that stood with the United States in this important battle in the war on terror to dispel such notions.

It is now up to the members of the United Nations to follow the Security Council lead and enact the provisions that will help stem the flow of dangerous weapons and technology.

This resolution is the culmination of the administration's hard work, led by Under Secretary of State John Bolton, to halt the proliferation of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons. The President's proliferation security initiative, launched last March, embodies these efforts. It has brought together nations from North America, Europe, Africa, and Asia to interdict shipments of WMD around the world. This resolution endorses such important collective action and I urge all nations to join in the effort.

I applaud the administration and the Security Council for helping take an important step to building a safer, more secure world.

#### HOMEFRONT HEROES

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I will take a few moments to recognize an organization that embodies the selflessness we hold dear in the United States. In Grand Junction, CO, Homefront Heroes was organized to answer the needs of spouses and family members left behind by deployed soldiers from across