

I ask unanimous consent that the statement of Senator Hollings be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I may not agree with all his statements, but as usual I thoroughly enjoyed reading it. I hope all Americans will enjoy it as well.

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

STATE OF THE UNION

On leaving the Senate after 38 years, I am constantly asked "what is your legacy?" Answer—a mess! While the country is going broke and jobs are hemorrhaging, G.I.'s are getting killed in an unwinnable war, and nobody cares. At least there is no sacrifice. In Washington Republicans and Democrats are in a Mexican standoff. Amid shouts that Social Security is "flat broke", the nation's security is being undermined.

Our security rests as on a three legged stool. The first leg—values—has always been the strongest. The United States has always been admired for its sacrifice for human rights and freedom. But our invasion of Iraq has created a training ground for terrorists and given Islamic television Al Jazeera a daily drumbeat of U.S. "atrocities." The second leg—economic—enjoyed its strongest era in the 1990's with low inflation, record growth and a strong dollar. The budget was balanced in 2001 with the recession lasting less than 9 months. But the tax cuts of the last four years caused deficits of \$141.1 billion, \$428.5 billion, \$562 billion, and \$593 billion. These fiscal deficits together with a trade deficit of 600 billion have the dollar in a dive. With our outsourcing of jobs policy the United States is fast losing its productive capacity. Finally, the third leg—military—has us again, as in Vietnam, losing. For the first time regulars in the Army are suing against extended duty and Americans are refusing to join the Guard and Reserves.

The need is to rebuild America. To get Congress to lead the rebuilding we must excise the cancer of money on the body politic and adopt a constitutional amendment: "The Congress of the United States is hereby empowered to regulate and control spending in federal elections." This will immediately limit campaigns, and cut the time raising money. Next, limit each senator to two committees—no exceptions. Then cut the staffs. Now the Senators will have time to work on the people's business rather than the campaign.

The first order of business is to get on top of health costs and provide healthcare for all of America. Next, instead of tax cuts enact a 2 percent VAT tax to pay for Iraq, Afghanistan and to eliminate the deficit. This will limit our disadvantage with global trade and strengthen the economy. Then resume Cordell Hull's reciprocal free trade policy by: instituting a Department of Trade and Commerce bringing the Special Trade Representative and other trade entities under one roof; abol-

ishing the International Trade Commission transferring it's duties to the International Trade Administration; eliminating the tax benefit for jobs going offshore and giving the break to businesses producing onshore; appointing an Assistant U.S. Attorney General to enforce trade laws; employing the necessary customs agents to stop transshipments; enlarging rather than eliminating the Advanced Technology Program; and reviewing our membership in the World Trade Organization.

Then provide the needs of air, rail and port security. Adopt an energy bill, a highway bill and begin to control the immigration and drug problem by adopting a Marshall plan for Mexico.

Finally confront the terror that confronts us. It's not the terror of Northern Ireland or Spain. It's not because of who we are or our values. It's because of our Israel-Palestine policy that appears one-sided. We confirmed this appearance with our invasion of Iraq. Terrorism got organized and spread. Now our problem is we are neither in nor out. It's too late to get in with the necessary troops so the best way to support the Iraq election is to remove ourselves as "occupiers." As former Senator George Aiken of Vermont said "declare victory and withdraw." Then have the Commander in Chief go to the front line of terrorism and instead of proclaiming "road maps" on high, have him get down in the traffic for peace.

None of this will happen unless the media gets out of politics. Of course they make more money taking polls and exciting controversy. But now the free press has abandoned its important role of maintaining a strong democracy. Thomas Jefferson signaled this responsibility when he observed; "between a government without newspapers or newspapers with out a government" he would chose the latter. The press used to report the truth to the American people and keep the Congress honest. Instead the press is downfield starting the fight instead of reporting the facts. The fact is that Social Security has a surplus of \$1.7 trillion and is in good shape until 2042. The fact is that the states readily regulate tort reform. The fact is that while the IRS can always stand some reform we can't afford a tax cut at this time. Rather than playing politics with these issues the press should be reporting the State of the Union.

IN MEMORY OF TONY ARMSTRONG

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today, to honor the memory of a great Nevadan, Tony Armstrong, who passed away last Saturday morning.

Tony was the mayor of the town of Sparks, NV, and I had the privilege of working with him in that capacity.

But I rise today not to praise Tony Armstrong the mayor, even though he was a great mayor.

I want to praise Tony Armstrong the husband, the father, the friend, the neighbor.

I rise to praise Tony Armstrong the man who made a positive impression on everyone he met, through the force of an engaging personality that reflected his basic love of people.

Tony spent most of his life in Sparks. He was born in Philadelphia, but his family moved to northern California when he was a toddler, and settled in Sparks when Tony was 4 years old.

Tony attended school in Sparks, and when he graduated high school he joined the Nevada Air National Guard. After serving on active duty for several years, he returned to Washoe County in 1973 and got a job as a building inspector.

In 1983 he married Debbie Rimby, and a couple of years later he started his own contracting company, which later became a private inspection firm.

He first ran for public office in 1987, when he failed to win election to the Sparks City Council. But like many of us who have lost elections, he learned from that experience and it strengthened his determination. He came back 2 years later and won a seat on the city council. Ten years after that, in 1999, the people of Sparks elected him as their mayor.

He was a popular mayor, guided always by his love of Sparks, his appreciation of the city's history, and his vision for the future.

Tony worked to preserve the best aspects of Sparks, the friendly atmosphere that make it such a wonderful place to raise a family, and at the same time, improve the services and amenities.

He realized that the great quality of life in northern Nevada meant that Sparks would continue to grow, and he worked to manage that growth so it would benefit the citizens of the city.

During the 14 years that he served as a city councilman and mayor, Sparks grew from a sleepy little railroad town to a city that is home to about 80,000 people.

He oversaw the development of a project called Victorian Square, which preserves and revitalizes a historic area, and the Sparks Marina. I had the privilege of working with him on that marina project.

He was a tireless champion for his city. Sparks and Reno share a convention center and airport, and Tony Armstrong was constantly working to make sure Sparks wasn't overshadowed by its larger neighbor.

Tony also spearheaded the Sparks Centennial Commission, which is celebrating the city's 100th birthday this year.

There is no question that the city will miss his leadership. And the people of Sparks will miss Tony's warm smile and his friendly conversation.

The man who preceded him as mayor, Bruce Breslow, put it simply. "He made everyone around him feel important," he said of Tony.

Another friend, Mary Henderson, said, "His smile was as bright as a northern Nevada sunrise."

Mary Humphries met Tony last spring, when they both welcomed attendees to a Sertoma convention in Sparks. After sitting with him for half an hour, she felt as if they had been friends for years.

Tony's daughter has multiple sclerosis, and 2 years ago at an MS walk, he struck up a conversation with Steve Mattos, a Reno man whose wife also has the disease. Tony told Steve that he was taking his daughter to Stanford Medical Center for some experimental tests, and Steve asked him to pass along any information that might be helpful. From that day forward, Tony regularly sent e-mail updates to a man he had met in person only that one time.

Another person who will never forget Tony is Tina Cline. Her husband, Marine LCpl Donald Cline, was killed in Iraq in 2003. At his memorial service, a tearful Tony introduced himself to Tina, hugged her and gave her his home phone number. After Tony's death last weekend, Mrs. Cline posted a message on the web site of the Reno Gazette Journal. "He has been one of the most helpful men I have ever known," she said.

Those are just some of the ways the people of Sparks will remember Tony Armstrong. He was only 59, and his death from complications after surgery was a blow to everyone who knew him.

Tony is survived by Debby, his wife of 21 years; his sons Richard and Keith; his daughter Misti Franco; four grandchildren, and three brothers. Please join me in offering condolences to them on the loss of their loved one.

Tony Armstrong will be missed by many people in many ways, but our memories of him will never be extinguished.

#### HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

CORPORAL NATHAN A. SCHUBERT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of an Iowa Marine who has fallen in service to his country in Iraq. Marine Corporal Nathan A. Schubert, of the 1st Battalion 3rd Marine Regiment, was killed on January 26, 2005 when his helicopter crashed during a sandstorm near Ar Rutbah, Iraq. The helicopter carried Corporal Schubert and thirty other Marines who were part of a security mission to aid in the safe conduct of the national democratic elections last Sunday. He is survived by his mother, Cheryl Winklepeck, a sister, Elizabeth Householder, and a brother, Matt. Corporal Schubert died one day before his 23rd birthday.

A native of Cherokee, IA, Cpl. Schubert attended Washington High School and went on to continue his studies at Kirkwood Community College in the fall of 2001. Just weeks after the terrorist attacks on September 11, Nathan Schubert enlisted in the Marines to fulfill what he saw as his patriotic duty. Describing Corporal Schubert as a friendly, likable, and patriotic young

man, his brother noted that he "lived life to the fullest."

I ask all of my colleagues in this body and all Americans to remember with respect, admiration, and gratitude this courageous Marine who made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of the principles we value most as Americans: freedom, democracy, and justice. Corporal Schubert died honorably while supporting and defending these values by aiding the birth and development of democracy in Iraq. He is to be commended for his bravery as he joins the honorable ranks of those Americans who have gone before him in service of their country. My prayers go out to Nathan's family and friends and my greatest respect and appreciation go to Cpl Nathan A. Schubert.

#### A STEP BACKWARDS IN NEPAL

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, earlier this week, for the second time in less than 3 years, King Gyanendra of Nepal dismissed the multiparty government and declared a state of emergency suspending fundamental constitutional rights. Apparently, he will assume the duties of the deposed Prime Minister and appoint a new cabinet.

Throughout its troubled past, Nepal has suffered from the neglect and often violent and corrupt misrule of many monarchs. For that reason, those familiar with its history may not be completely surprised by this unfortunate development.

Yet one would have thought that in the 21st century, this type of thing would, by now, be a distant memory. At a time when a vicious Maoist insurgency is gaining ground in Nepal, it would be hard to conceive of a worse time for the King to repeat his past mistake.

There is no military solution to this conflict. Nepal is a place where, not unlike Afghanistan, a handful of extremists with rifles and explosives can wreak havoc and easily disappear into the rugged countryside. By terrorizing rural villagers and exploiting the Government's neglect of them, the Maoists have steadily extended their reach to large areas of the country.

The Nepalese army, while somewhat more effective than a few years ago when it performed little more than ceremonial duties, has likewise alienated much of the rural population by arbitrarily arresting, disappearing and killing civilians suspected of sympathizing with the Maoists. Today, the army, rather than defending democracy, is defending the King. It is clear that the King and the army concocted this together, despite having assured the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights last week that concerns about violations of human rights would be addressed.

This year, the United States plans to provide some \$40 million in economic aid to Nepal. Much of this is channeled by USAID through nongovernmental organizations. But we are also pro-

viding support to the Nepalese government, as well as training and equipment to the Army. In fact, several months ago we approved the transfer of \$1 million in fiscal year 2004 military equipment that had not initially been appropriated for Nepal.

The Indian government, to its credit, issued a strong statement critical of the King's actions. The State Department has also called for the immediate restoration of multiparty democracy. King Gyanendra is on notice that he will be held responsible for infringement of the rights of free speech and assembly, or abuses of citizens who have defended human rights and democracy.

The State Department should also make clear that unless democratic government and fundamental rights are promptly restored, the United States will cut off aid to the government and the army under Section 508 of the Foreign Operations Act which was designed to deter and punish this type of act. Regardless of whether or not the King may have acted within his authority under Nepal's constitution, and I do not know if he did or not, that is not the issue. The intent of our law to safeguard democracy is clear. The price is losing U.S. aid. Furthermore, if the \$1 million in military equipment previously transferred has not yet been delivered, it should be withheld.

Everyone who has followed Nepal's recent history would agree that its 10 year "experiment" with democracy has not been easy. Democracy is never easy, and no one should minimize the threat the Maoists pose. But the answer is not to undermine democracy. The answer, as President Bush expressed in his Inaugural Address, is to work, with help from the international community, to strengthen democracy. The United States Congress would welcome that opportunity.

King Gyanendra has made a tragic blunder. He still has time to prevent a momentary crisis from becoming a disaster for his country and perhaps for the monarchy itself.

#### LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. Each Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate crimes legislation that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

In January 2005, a teenage Texas male was repeatedly beaten by a group of teenage boys. The apparent motivation for this attack was the victim's sexual orientation—he was gay. The attackers punched and repeatedly kicked the victim with a steel-toed boot while yelling slurs regarding his sexual orientation.