

2005, that Senator KYL placed a colloquy in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD arguing that Section 1005 should be interpreted to retroactively strip the courts of jurisdiction over pending cases. At the same time, a number of other Senators placed statements in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD stating their belief that the provision would not strip the courts of jurisdiction over pending cases.

Those statements, coming as they did after the conclusion of the conference and final action on the bill in both the House and the Senate, carry no more weight as legislative history than the statement that Senator KYL placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD last week or any other after-the-fact statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Both the contemporaneous legislative history and the language and structure of the Graham-Levin amendment itself demonstrate that this provision was not intended to, and did not, retroactively strip the Federal courts of jurisdiction over pending cases.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today during Black History Month to celebrate and remember the rich history of the millions of African Americans who have made this country what it is today.

It is a time to honor leaders from across the country—some who are well known and others who are almost forgotten. It is a time to cherish the pioneers to give them the recognition they deserve and to preserve their names, faces, and stories for generations to come.

This Black History Month, we especially remember and mourn the recent loss of two of the key players in the civil rights movement Rosa Parks and Coretta Scott King.

In October, we said goodbye to the “First Woman of Civil Rights,” Rosa Parks. When Ms. Parks refused to give up her seat on a city bus in Montgomery, AL, in 1955, we know that a movement had already begun, but she poured fuel on the fire—inspiring the historic Montgomery bus boycott. She refused to give up her seat to a White man because she was tired—tired of being treated like a second-class citizen, tired of being forced to move because someone else decided they deserved to sit more than she did. And she became a model and a hero for me and generations of Americans looking to make our country truly the land of the free.

And then we just lost another icon. Not only was Coretta Scott King married to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., but she was a pioneer with her own voice in the civil rights movement at a time when women were not often recognized for their own talents and merit. She was resolute, but she was feisty—someone after my own heart. She founded the King Center for Nonviolent Social

Change and saw to it that the center became deeply involved with the issues that she believed breed violence—hunger, unemployment, voting rights and racism. And when her husband was tragically shot, she comforted a nation that was torn apart. She is the reason we have a national holiday that honors Dr. King.

While we remember the lives and deeds of Rosa Parks, Coretta Scott King, and countless others, we need to honor their memory not just with words, but with deeds. We need to reexamine what this country must still do to ensure equality every day. We need to evaluate the work we still need to do to guarantee that African Americans are not left behind when it comes to the issues that matter.

This Black History Month, I am still concerned and dedicated to fighting for the issues that matter to African Americans. We must make higher education more affordable for families. We must fight for adequate health care. We must fight to keep our neighborhoods and communities safe. We must fight to make sure the needs of Hurricanes Katrina survivors are not forgotten.

The cost of college tuition has been skyrocketing. It is putting stress on the families and students who have to struggle just to be able to pay their bills. That is why I have introduced legislation to create a tuition tax credit to families and to students who pay for their own tuition. This legislation would offer a tax credit of up to \$4,000 a year per student to help them with the cost of the education they deserve. America needs our young people to know that they will not be limited by the size of their wallet to follow their big dreams.

I also want to assure African Americans that they are not limited in the health care they receive because of spartan or skimpy funding for the health issues that affect them most. That is why I teamed up with Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES in the Uterine Fibroids Research and Education Act of 2005, to double fibroid research funding and to launch an education campaign for patients and physicians. Uterine fibroids are a terrible, painful ailment that plague mostly African-American women. Fibroids affect the entire family—not only the woman who has to endure them but also those who love her and who hate to see the lady they love in so much pain. They have gone ignored for too long. We need to fight for the resources to find the cause, to find better treatments, and hopefully to find a cure for this devastating disease so that women and families don't have to deal with this pain in their lives.

Families also want to know the neighborhoods they live in are safe. The number of gangs nationwide and in my own home State of Maryland has been rising. Families don't want to have to worry about gang violence in their streets. That is why in Maryland

I have helped launch a statewide antigang initiative that I hope can serve as a model for the country. This initiative will not only go after the bad guys through suppression and enforcement, but it will offer prevention and intervention efforts to help the good kids in the communities who are trying so hard. Mothers and fathers shouldn't have to worry about losing their children to gang violence in their neighborhoods, and that is why I am going to continue to give help to our communities to protect themselves.

We need to offer protection to the survivors of Hurricane Katrina in the gulf coast communities because the Federal Government really let them down. I know the African-American community feels very prickly about this and feels abandoned. They should know that even though President Bush hires cronies and doesn't have competent people working for him, the American people haven't abandoned them. We are going to work to rebuild the communities in Louisiana. We are going to get the survivors housing and jobs and health care. We are going to open the schools. We are going to stick with them, and we are going to fight for them.

So this year during Black History Month, I honor the memories of the great leaders who have come before us with my commitment to fighting for these important year-round issues. And I am going to do it not just with words, but with deeds. I urge you all to join me.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. ROBERT W. GORE

● Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the lifetime of accomplishments of Dr. Robert W. Gore, who was recently inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

In 1957, during his sophomore year at the University of Delaware, Bob Gore came up with the idea of using polytetrafluoroethylene, PTFE, to insulate wire. Little did he know how this seemingly simple idea would impact everything from supercomputers to Arctic exploration.

In 1958, Bob's parent's, W.L. “Bill” Gore and his wife Genevieve, began W.L. Gore & Associates in the basement of their Delaware home. Bill was a research chemist at DuPont and, based on Robert's idea, developed and patented a process for insulating wire with PTFE.

Bob Gore went on to graduate from the University of Delaware 2 years later and joined his parents in developing and expanding their home business. After an order for 7½ miles of insulated cable from the city of Denver, W.L. Gore & Associates opened their first manufacturing plant in Newark, DE, in 1961.

In 1969, insulated cables from W.L. Gore & Associates were used during the

first moon landing, connecting seismic readers to the landing craft during Neil Armstrong's historic moonwalk. Also in 1969, Dr. Gore began manufacturing cables for use in high-tech supercomputers.

While many people would be satisfied with having one of the most successful and cutting-edge companies in America, Bob Gore and his parents continued to explore the possibilities of polytetrafluoroethylene. In 1975, a spinoff of this compound, called expanded polytetrafluoroethylene, ePTFE, was used to develop vascular grafts that heart surgeons around the world still rely on today. Recognized for exceptional performance and quality, they have earned the endorsement of renowned surgeons worldwide and are credited with saving countless lives.

In 1976, Bob Gore took the reigns as CEO of W.L. Gore & Associates. This same year, the company received its first order for GORE-TEX fabric, which was the first fabric that was both waterproof and breathable. Initially used to make rainwear, this groundbreaking fabric would revolutionize the clothing industry and forever change how people interacted with their environments.

In 1990, GORE-TEX proved its toughness in the wilds of Antarctica. An international team of explorers wore GORE-TEX outerwear while traversing the polar continent. After braving the wilds of this hostile environment, one member of the team credited the revolutionary fabric with saving his life.

Besides the cutting-edge innovation and consistent quality that W.L. Gore & Associates provides to its customers, the organization has consistently been ranked as one of the "100 Best Companies to Work For" by Fortune magazine. This honor is especially significant when you think about the impact that a good corporate environment has on the health and well-being of its employees. The morale and team structure that W.L. Gore & Associates uses in its day-to-day work environment helps ensure that their employees continue to provide the world with cutting-edge products that make our lives easier and better.

Bob Gore was named to the University of Delaware's College of Distinguished Alumni in 1990 and was inducted into the National Academy of Engineering in 1995. In 2005, Dr. Gore was awarded the Perkin Medal, which is considered to be one of the most prestigious awards for applied chemistry.

By fostering an environment where people are free to test the boundaries of innovation, Bob Gore has created a workplace that encourages energy, enthusiasm, and creativity. Whether it is extreme weather clothing, surgical components, or guitar strings, the employees of W.L. Gore & Associates never settle for second best. The leadership of Dr. Gore has made this possible, and all of Delaware is proud that he continues to make sure that the

First State remains a leader in innovative products.●

IDAHO'S FRIEND IN THE IRS

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, for the first time in many years, Idaho taxpayers and congressional staff will face the season without a very special friend in the business. Merry Trudeau, local taxpayer advocate with the Internal Revenue Service, is retiring after 30 years of lending a compassionate ear and helpful hand to many Idaho taxpayers. Over three decades of working in different sections of the IRS but most notably as a taxpayer advocate, Merry distinguished herself on both sides of the phone. She helped many Idahoans through the mazes of Federal tax law and working out resolutions to different problems, and she was the person who fellow employees reached out to when they needed guidance. She is perhaps best known for her generosity and willingness to volunteer her time and resources with the Combined Federal Campaign and helping needy families and children enjoy beautiful and plentiful Christmases.

Merry's grandchildren and husband will certainly enjoy all the additional attention as she turns her time from work to family and friends in retirement. Still, people like Merry never truly retire from helping others, and I am positive that her generosity, compassion, and kindness will continue to leave an indelible mark on all the lives she touches. My congratulations go to Merry and her family as she opens the page to a new chapter in her life.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT PREPARED BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD ENTITLED "SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING INDICATORS—2006"—PM 40

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with 42 U.S.C. 1863(j)(1), I transmit herewith a report prepared

for the Congress and the Administration by the National Science Board entitled, "Science and Engineering Indicators—2006." This report represents the seventeenth in the series examining key aspects of the status of science and engineering in the United States.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, February 14, 2006.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5714. A communication from the Deputy Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Rocket Launches from Kodiak Island, AK" (RIN0648-AP62) received on February 8, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5715. A communication from the Assistant Chief Counsel, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hazardous Materials: Requirements for Lighters and Lighter Refills" (RIN2137-AD88) received on February 8, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5716. A communication from the Program Analyst, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Anthropomorphic Test Devices, Hybrid III 6-year-old Weighted Test Dummy" (RIN2127-AJ79) received on February 8, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5717. A communication from the Regulations Officer, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Project Authorization and Agreements" (RIN2125-AF05) received on February 8, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5718. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 610 of the Gulf of Alaska" (I.D. No. 012506A) received on February 8, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5719. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Pilatus Aircraft Ltd. Models PC-12 and PC-12/45 Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64)(2005-CE-35)) received on February 8, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5720. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica S.A. Model EMB-135 Airplanes; and Model EMB-145, -145ER, -145MR, -145LR, -145XR, -145MP, and -145EP Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64)(2002-NM-89)) received on February 8, 2006; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.