

such interests as environmental protection, human rights, working families and community building.

Congressman Vento's career was a truly a remarkable one. He and I shared a profound affection for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, a place special to so many Wisconsinites and Minnesotans. Congressman Vento bravely agreed to chair the Ely field hearings on the creation of the Boundary Waters wilderness in 1977, a courageous decision for someone who was a Freshman member of the House at the time, and was a vocal champion of that wilderness throughout his career. As I work on wilderness issues, I am often reminded of Congressman Vento's comments on the House floor during consideration of the Boundary Waters bill. He said, "there ought to be an opportunity where someone can go and have some solitude, where someone can go and have an experience that is different."

Congressman Vento used his career to work to protect that "different" opportunity for all Americans in the Boundary Waters, the Arctic Refuge, Southern Utah and many other special wilderness areas. These places and the people who cherish them, myself included, owe him a great debt.

I also had the privilege of working closely with Congressman Vento in this session of Congress on the Hmong Veterans' Naturalization Act which is now federal law. Congressman Vento was actively involved in getting that legislation through the House.

I join with the Senate in letting Congressman Vento's family know how grateful we are for having known him, and how committed we are to ensuring that the causes to which he gave his heart and his career remain protected.

SUBMITTING CHANGES TO THE BUDGETARY AGGREGATES AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ALLOCATION

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, section 314 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended, requires the Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee to adjust the appropriate budgetary aggregates and the allocation for the Appropriations Committee to reflect amounts provided for emergency requirements.

I hereby submit revisions to the 2001 Senate Appropriations Committee allocations, pursuant to section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act, in the following amounts:

(Dollars in millions)		
	Budget authority	Outlays
Current Allocation:		
General purpose discretionary	\$602,307	\$593,714
Highways		26,920
Mass transit		4,639
Mandatory	327,787	310,215
Total	930,094	935,488

(Dollars in millions)		
	Budget authority	Outlays
Adjustments:		
General purpose discretionary	+4,367	+3,384
Highways		
Mass transit		
Mandatory		
Total	+4,367	+3,384
Revised Allocation:		
General purpose discretionary	606,674	597,098
Highways		26,920
Mass transit		4,639
Mandatory	327,787	310,215
Total	934,461	938,872

I hereby submit revisions to the 2001 budget aggregates, pursuant to section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, in the following amounts:

(Dollars in millions)			
	Budget authority	Outlays	Surplus
Current Allocation: Budget			
Resolution	\$1,528,412	\$1,492,435	\$10,765
Adjustments: Emergencies	+4,367	+3,384	-3,384
Revised Allocation: Budget			
Resolution	1,532,779	1,495,819	7,381

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH 2000

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise to offer some remarks on a timely and important topic—our national celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Hundreds of years after the decline of the Spanish Empire, a new Hispanic presence is making itself felt on the world stage. Democracy is taking deep root throughout much of Latin America. Mexico just celebrated the selection of a new President in an election that is widely viewed as the freest and fairest election in that country's history. Central America is largely at peace. Free trade has spread south of our border, and will continue to spread further south.

And Hispanic Americans are taking their rightful place in this country as an important part of our thriving economy, as a wonderful contributor to the diversity of American culture, and as a powerful political force that deserves attention.

It is fitting, then—as National Hispanic Heritage Month is upon us—to recognize the Hispanic-American population for its many important contributions to the traditions and history of this nation. Started 32 years ago, this festive month acknowledges the great history of the Hispanic people, celebrate their past achievements, and recognizes that the Hispanic-American community is an essential component in the future of the United States.

Hispanics have immigrated to the United States for many different personal reasons. They have taken the journey to America in hope of a better life for themselves and their families. They have persevered throughout their struggle to maintain their own identity while learning to assimilate into American ways.

Today, the Hispanic population in the United States has expanded and be-

come more diverse. It is now our fastest growing ethnic group, its population increasing almost four times as fast as the rest of the population. The Hispanic population is projected to account for 44 percent of the growth in the nation's population between 1995 and 2025. Hispanics are literally changing the face of this nation.

The label "Hispanic-American" encompasses an enormous diversity of individuals. Hispanics are not a single ethnic group but are comprised of people from Puerto Rico, Cuba, Mexico, and the countries of Central and South America. This diversity has brought a tradition of resilience and excellence to the United States, a country that derives its strength from the diversity of its people.

There is an emerging awareness of the contributions and achievements Hispanics have made. Hispanic individuals are prominent in every aspect of American life. In the business world, such names as Adolfo Marzol, executive vice-president of Fannie Mae and George Munoz, CEO of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, are being recognized. Oscar Hijuelos, the first American-born Hispanic to win the Pulitzer Prize for fiction, is known as one of literature's award-winning authors. Maria Hinojosa, a CNN correspondent, was named one of the most influential Hispanic Americans by Hispanic Business magazine, and has received many awards for her reporting. These are just some of the extraordinary individuals who contribute to Hispanic-American culture in our country.

A few of the names of Hispanic-Americans from my home state of Illinois will resonate in history, like Luis Alvarez, the Nobel Price-winning physicist, who studied at the University of Chicago before going on to become a central figure in the Manhattan project during World War II. Others are heroes on a quieter scale, like Raymond Orozco who, until his retirement a few years back, headed the Chicago Fire Department with distinction, or Sandra Cisneros whose beautiful stories of women's courage in the midst of poverty have won her international acclaim. But most of all we benefit as a state and as a nation from the thousands of ordinary folks whose lives and dreams and everyday actions make this a richer, stronger, more interesting place to live.

The emergence of a sizable Hispanic-American population has been particularly notable in Illinois, to the great benefit of the state. More than a million Illinoisans are of Hispanic heritage. They own 20,000 businesses in the state and generate more than \$2 billion in commerce. More than a quarter of a million Hispanic-Americans are registered to vote here, and the state can boast over 1,000 elected officials—from school board members to members of Congress—of Hispanic heritage.