

This work goes on in states with large immigrant populations, like New York and California, but also in Arkansas, Oregon, and Nebraska, where immigrant populations are growing. In the last two years, the office has reached settlements with SmithKline Beecham, the pharmaceutical company, the Atlanta Journal Constitution newspaper, and Iowa Beef Packers, a meat packing and processing company in South Dakota.

Last year, the special counsel's office awarded \$45,000 to the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition, a grant used statewide to education immigrants, train community agency staff, and hold forums. The office recently formed a valuable alliance with the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination. Since the office has no local branches, it is building a nationwide web of local contacts whom immigrants can turn to for federal help.

Unfortunately as national immigration rates soar, the Office for the Special Counsel is having trouble keeping up. Its activities are limited by a small staff and a budget of just under \$6 million. Doubling the budget would spread the office's reach more evenly across the country. It could take more preventative measures, helping employers before laws are violated, instead of punishing them once the harm is done.

This would help immigrants and the economy—a winning move for the United States.

FEDERAL JUDGESHIP

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, today this Congress has expanded accessibility to justice for hundreds of thousands of residents of northern Wisconsin by creating a Federal judgeship to sit in Green Bay, WI. Let me explain how this judgeship will alleviate the stress that the current system places on business, law enforcement agents, witnesses, victims and individual litigants in northeastern Wisconsin.

First, while the four full-time district court judges for the Eastern District of Wisconsin currently reside in Milwaukee, for most litigants and witnesses in northeastern Wisconsin. Milwaukee is well over 100 miles away. In fact, as the courts are currently arranged, the northern portion of the Eastern District is more remote from a Federal court than any other major population center, commercial or industrial, in the United States. Thus, litigants and witnesses must incur substantial costs in traveling from northern Wisconsin to Milwaukee—costs in terms of time, money, resources, and effort. Indeed, driving from Green Bay to Milwaukee takes nearly two hours each way. Add inclement weather or a departure point north of Green Bay—such as Oconto or Marinette—and often the driving time alone actually exceeds the amount of time witnesses spend testifying.

Second, Wisconsin's Federal judges serve a disproportionately large population. I commissioned a study by the General Accounting Office which revealed that Wisconsin Federal judges serve the largest population among all Federal judges. Each sitting Federal judge in Wisconsin serves an average

population of 859,966, while the remaining Federal judges across the country—more than 650—serve less than half that number, with an average of 417,000 per judge. For example, while Louisiana has fewer residents than Wisconsin, it has 22 Federal judges, nearly four times as many as our State.

Third, the Federal Government is required to prosecute all felonies committed by Native Americans that occur on the Menominee Reservation. The Reservation's distance from the Federal prosecutors and courts—more than 150 miles—makes these prosecutions problematic, and because the Justice Department compensates attorneys, investigators and sometimes witnesses for travel expenses, the existing system costs all of us. Without an additional judge in Green Bay, the administration of justice, as well as the public's pocketbook, will suffer enormously.

Fourth, many manufacturing and retail companies are located in northeastern Wisconsin. These companies often require a Federal court to litigate complex price-fixing, contract, and liability disputes with out-of-State businesses. But the sad truth is that many of these legitimate cases are never even filed—precisely because the northern part of the State lacks a Federal court. This hurts businesses not only in Wisconsin, but across the Nation.

In conclusion, having a Federal judge in Green Bay will reduce costs and inconvenience while increasing judicial efficiency. But most important, it will help ensure that justice is more available and more affordable to the people of northeastern Wisconsin.

ILO CONVENTION 182 RATIFICATION

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the first anniversary of U.S. ratification of the ILO's newest core human rights convention: ILO Convention #182—the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor.

Last Friday was not just the first anniversary of ILO Convention #182. It was also the date on which Convention #182 came into effect in the United States. That means the first report on U.S. compliance with the terms of this treaty is due in Geneva by next September.

I have long been deeply involved in the struggle to end abusive child labor. Ten years ago, the scourge of abusive child labor was spreading in the U.S. and throughout the world with little notice or concern from our government.

That is why I supported the first-ever, day-long Capitol Hill forum on the Commercial Exploitation of Children. I had two primary goals in mind back then.

First, I wanted to sound an alarm about the increase in abusive child

labor in the U.S. and overseas. Second, I wanted to elevate this human rights and worker rights challenge to a global priority.

I am heartened to report that significant progress has been made in the past decade, even though much remains to be done.

In June of 1999, ILO Convention #182 was adopted unanimously—the first time ever that an ILO convention was approved without one dissenting vote. Just one year ago, the Senate, in record time, ratified ILO Convention #182 with a bipartisan, 96-0 vote.

And today, 41 countries have ratified ILO Convention #182—countries from every region of the world. 12 African nations, 12 European nations, 10 American Caribbean nations, 5 from the Middle East, and 2 from Asia. Since the ILO was established in 1919, never has one of its treaties been ratified so quickly by so many national governments.

In May of 2000, we enacted the Trade and Development Act of 2000. This Act included a provision I authored that requires more than 100 nations that enjoy duty-free access to the American marketplace to implement their legal commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in order to keep these trade privileges.

Since May, the State Department has demanded thorough review of the efforts of over 130 nations to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The U.S. Labor Department is planning to file its first comprehensive report to Congress on whether countries that enjoy preferential access to our markets are fulfilling their obligations de facto until ILO Convention #182. And they've dispatched fact-finding teams around the world to investigate.

Their findings will be submitted to an inter-agency review process chaired by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. Later this year, this process will decide which beneficiary countries should retain their trade privileges and which should not.

Last year, this Congress approved a \$30 million U.S. contribution to the ILO's International Program to Eliminate Child Labor (IPEC) for Fiscal Year 2000.

This made our country the single largest contributor to IPEC. And—if and when we finally approve our LHHS Appropriations Bill—our contribution will increase to \$45 million in Fiscal Year 2001. This is yet another reason for us to wrap up that legislation before we adjourn.

That's the good news, Mr. President. But we've got a long way to go in our battle to eliminate abusive child labor and open up a bright future for more than 250 million child laborers around the world.

Our first, and perhaps most important step, is to heed ILO Convention #182 in our own country. We have to develop a national action plan to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in

our midst—labor which “by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.”

Mr. President, who among us can deny that there are children working under such circumstances in our own country?

In order to be a credible leader in the world struggle against abusive child labor, we've got to do more to eliminate the worst forms of child labor right here in America.

Fortunately, the Child Labor Coalition has recently convened meetings of non-governmental organizations to begin fashioning recommendations for the U.S. national action plan required by ILO Convention #182.

Hopefully, President Clinton will be moved to act on some of these recommendations when they are presented to White House officials today. He has already distinguished himself as a President who has done more than all of his predecessors combined to fight abusive child labor.

I conclude my remarks by describing one glaring example of abusive child labor in our own backyard that cries out for immediate legislative redress.

Right now, as many as 800,000 migrant child laborers toil in the fields of large-scale commercial agriculture picking the produce we eat every day. They are working at younger ages, for longer hours, exposed to more hazardous conditions than minors working in non-agricultural jobs.

Their plight has prompted me to introduce the Children's Act for Responsible Employment (S. 3100—The CARE Act) which I will push hard to enact next year.

This legislation will end our current double standard in employment. It will extend to minors working in large-scale commercial agriculture—corporate farms, if you will—the same rights and legal protections as those working in non-agricultural jobs. It will also: Toughen civil and criminal penalties for willful child labor violators; protect children under 16 from working in peddling or door-to-door sales; strengthen the authority of the U.S. Secretary of Labor to deal with “hot goods” made by children and shipped in interstate commerce; improve coordination and reporting among federal, state, and local governments on injuries and deaths of minors on the job; improve collaboration between the U.S. Labor and Agriculture Departments to enforce federal child labor laws; and preserve exemptions for minors working on family farms as well as those selling door-to-door as volunteers for non-profit organizations like the Girl Scouts of America.

So today, we should all celebrate that day one year ago when we took the high road and ratified ILO Convention #182. But we cannot rest on our laurels. In the next Congress, we've got

to re-dedicate ourselves to restoring the childhoods of millions of child laborers and lifting them up from the cruel hand that they and their impoverished families have been dealt.

AMERICAN HOMEOWNERSHIP AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2000

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, on December 7, 2000, the Senate approved H.R. 5640, the American Homeownership and Economic Opportunity Act of 2000. I earlier introduced S. 3274, the Senate companion to this legislation. Title IV of H.R. 5640 included several technical corrections to the Homeowners Protection Act of 1998. These technical corrections have no specific effective date attached to them. In my view, it is the expectation of Congress that lenders impacted by those technical corrections should have a reasonable period of time to make systems changes and conform administrative processes to the new law. This flexibility is important because the Homeowners Protection Act of 1998 does not authorize a Federal agency to provide implementing regulations.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING ALAN EMORY

• Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, Alan Emory, who for nearly half a century covered Washington for the Watertown Daily Times, passed away on November 27. Known for years as “the Dean” of the New York press corps, he was an indefatigable and prolific writer who often penned up to six stories a day in addition to a twice-weekly column. Even after retiring as bureau chief in 1998, he pursued stories with the same integrity and determination that first brought him to Washington in 1951. This past July, he broke the news that the Health Care Financing Administration intended to cut Medicare reimbursement for outpatient cancer care. Shortly thereafter, in a great part because of Alan's reporting, the plan was abandoned.

He was a dear friend, and he will be missed. I ask that the obituary from the Associated Press be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

ALAN EMORY, LONGTIME WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT FOR WATERTOWN TIMES, DIES

Washington—Alan Emory, Washington correspondent for the Watertown (N.Y.) Daily Times for 49 years, died Monday after a battle with pancreatic cancer.

He was 78.

Emory covered 10 presidential administrations—from Harry Truman to Bill Clinton—during his tenure in Washington. He began his career with the Times in 1947 in Watertown and also worked in the paper's Albany, N.Y., bureau before coming to Washington in 1951.

He specialized in Canadian border issues, founding a group of reporters from northern states that met regularly with Canadian officials. He also covered more than 1,500 White House press conferences, traveling to Russia, China, Canada and South America.

A former president of Washington's famed Gridiron Club, Emory penned many of the songs and skits that were performed in the club's annual spoof of the Washington political scene.

In 1956, he was elected to the Standing Committee of Correspondents of Congressional Press Galleries. He was elected to the Hall of Fame of the Washington chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists in 1979.

Emory graduated from Harvard University and received a master's degree from Columbia University's School of Journalism. He spent almost three years in the U.S. Army.

Emory was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer early in 2000. He continued with his political writing, sometimes also writing about his struggles with the health care system.

Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., called Emory “a giant.”

“He practiced journalism the way it should be practiced with integrity and honesty,” Schumer said Monday. “Whether you liked the story he was writing or not, you always knew it was going to be fair and honest.”

Emory died at his home in Falls Church, VA.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy Carol Goodman.●

PASSING OF JAMES RUSSELL WIGGINS

• Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a beloved adopted son of Maine, James Russell Wiggins, whose life brought tremendous pride to our State, credit to the profession of journalism, and joy to all those fortunate to have known him.

For all of us, a great many people pass through our lives. Few clearly and completely present us with the qualities to which we instinctively know we should aspire. Few truly define and embody the standards to which all of us should hold ourselves, and it is a blessing when we find them.

James Russell Wiggins was instantly recognizable as such a person, and I was blessed to have found him nearly 23 years ago. While his heart has ceased to beat after nearly 97 extraordinary years, his spirit continues to enkindle the hearts of all those whose lives he touched with his warmth, his enthusiasm, and his generosity.

Russ Wiggins cast his light most broadly and brightly through the medium of the printed word, and perhaps most prominently in his 20-year career with The Washington Post. Difficult as it may be to believe today, there was a time when the Post was not widely held in high regard, even in its own hometown. That the Post is internationally recognized today is a testament to the vision of a man for whom the public's right to the best possible information was paramount and integral to the health of our democracy.

Eventually reaching the position of editor, Russ Wiggins' stamp remains on