

personal library, and thereafter establish the Library of Congress. As New Yorkers, with our Public Library, we truly understand the eminence of the Library of Congress. It is the largest research library in this country, and indeed the world. The Local Legacies Project is a fitting way to celebrate this great treasure. The Library is about preserving and disseminating knowledge about many things, but especially about this great nation. The Local Legacies project is about commemorating and showcasing that knowledge.●

#### THE MATCHMAKERS

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, when journalists and political scientists write about the activities here, they often prepare articles about how a bill becomes a law. That is an interesting study, but it is only half of the story. In fact, it is equally interesting to see how a law becomes a program—how words on the law books are transformed into a working program that delivers services to our constituents.

The key to that process is people. Ultimately, someone has to take responsibility for carrying out the laws we craft here. Today I want to recognize a group of people who are aggressively working to give life to the HUBZone program we passed in 1997.

The HUBZone program seeks to use the Government's purchasing power to encourage economic growth and job creation in the Nation's most intransigent areas of poverty and unemployment. These areas often present the greatest challenge because they lack a strong customer base.

As a result, small businesses tend not to locate in these areas, preferring to set up their operations in more prosperous areas that have an established stream of customer traffic. The HUBZone program seeks to offset this imbalance by making the Government a customer to firms willing to invest in these hard-to-reach communities.

Over two years have passed since the HUBZone program was signed into law, but progress has been very slow. Recently the Small Business Administration certified the 1,000th HUBZone small business concern, a major milestone. However, the need is much greater. Without a large base of certified firms, the Government will not have enough participating companies to do business on the scale we envisioned in writing the program.

Because of this lack of certified companies, some agencies are throwing up their hands and opting not to carry out the HUBZone law. Without enough vendors to bid on contracts, some agencies are letting this tremendous new resource sit idle.

Defense Department agencies in the New England States have proved an exception to that rule. The Northeast Re-

gional Council, which comprises small business officers from Defense agencies and Procurement Technical Assistance Centers, along with defense contractors large and small, created a special High Performance Team dubbed "The Matchmakers" to identify problems in implementing the HUBZone program and to work aggressively to solve them.

The Matchmakers found six components that were mismatched ("the hexa-mismatch problem"): contract requirements, suppliers, commodities, agency databases, education and benefits under the program, and the HUBZones themselves. For example, commodities to be purchased were not matched with suppliers who could provide them, and those suppliers were not necessarily matched to HUBZone areas that would make them eligible to participate.

Having distilled the problem to its most basic elements, the Matchmakers are now setting out to track down suppliers who could fill the agencies' procurement needs, identify those that are located in HUBZones, educate them about the program benefits, and get them to apply for certification.

Mr. President, this kind of aggressive action is exactly what is necessary to transform the HUBZone Act from mere words on a page into a program that helps real people and communities. Someday, when the HUBZone program is delivering benefits and creating jobs for people who currently do not have them, it will be essential to remember the people who made it possible. So that their names are not forgotten, I ask to include in the RECORD a list of the members of the Matchmakers High Performance Team, and I call the attention of my colleagues to their leadership and hard work.

Richard S. Alexander, Market Development Center, Bangor, ME

Ronald R. Belden, Kollsman Inc., Merrimack, NH

Deborah Bode, Kaman Aerospace Corporation, Bloomfield, CT

Ira M. Brand, Sanders-Lockheed Martin, Nashua, NH

Cynthia Busch, Market Development Center, Bangor, ME

Sean Crean, Small Business Administration, Augusta, ME

Carl E. Cromer, Defense Contact Management Command, Hartford, CT

Janette Fasano, Small Business Administration, Boston, MA

Joseph M. Flynn, New Hampshire Office of Business and Industrial Development, Concord, NH

John Forcucci, BBN Corporation, Cambridge, MA

Benita Fortner, Raytheon Company, Lexington, MA

Len Green, Massachusetts Small Business Development Center, Salem, MA

Keith Hubbard, Small Business Administration, Bedford, MA

Maridee N. Kirwin, GEO-Centers, Inc., Newton Center, MA

Gregory Lawson, State of Vermont Department of Economic Development, Montpelier, VT

Ken Lewis, Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, Providence, RI

John H. McMullen, General Dynamics Government Services Corporation, Needham Heights, MA

David J. Rego, Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division Newport, Newport, RI

Barbara A. Riley, Textron Systems, Wilmington, MA

Michael Robinson, Massachusetts Procurement Technical Assistance Center, Amherst, MA

Philip R. Varney, Defense Contract Management Command, Boston, MA

Arlene M. Vogel, Connecticut Procurement Technical Assistance Center, New London, CT●

#### GEORGIA RESEARCH ALLIANCE HELPS CONVERT A VISION INTO REALITY

Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, ten years ago the business, government and academic leaders in the state of Georgia had a vision. Their vision was to cultivate and develop a robust technology-driven economy and to make Georgia's high-tech industry one of the best in the nation. I'm pleased to report that this vision is a reality today. Georgia is now the nation's leader in generating high-tech jobs and Atlanta is the undisputed high-tech capital of the Southeast! I'd like to pay tribute to the men and women of Georgia for their role in making these monumental achievements possible.

One of the leading organizations that is responsible for advancing Georgia's high-tech economy is the Georgia Research Alliance. The Alliance's mission is to develop Georgia's high-tech economy by enabling the state's research universities to become powerful engines of economic growth. The Alliance has carried out its mission over the past ten years by strategically investing \$240 million in State and Federal funding and \$65 million in matching funds from private sector firms, like Bell South, Merial Corporation and Georgia Power. These investments are paying big dividends. First, Georgia has utilized over \$600 million in Federal grants and contracts for building a premier high-tech research infrastructure through focused investments in the State's research universities, creating endowments for eminent scholars, building state-of-the-art research facilities and equipping the State's research laboratories. The Alliance has also been responsible for creating a high-tech, business friendly environment that has created new businesses from the research findings developed in the State's universities and enticed eminent scholars to relocate to Georgia.

Another key achievement of the Alliance is growing high-tech jobs in the state. Since the Alliance began serving Georgia just ten years ago, the number of high-tech jobs in the state has more than doubled. These exceptional achievements have made Georgia the

national leader in high-tech job growth and allowed Georgia to gain worldwide recognition for its ability to craft a state-of-the-art technology-based economy.

It is the efforts of many individuals, researchers and scholars, working with and for the Alliance, that have led to the successes this organization has attained. The Alliance has been responsible for attracting some of the best researchers and scholars in the world to help build Georgia's premier high-tech infrastructure. For example, Dr. Julia Hilliard, an Alliance Eminent Scholar in molecular biotechnology at Georgia State University, has come to Georgia with an interest in preventing the spread of herpes-B, which is one of the most feared occupational hazards in biomedical science. Dr. Rafi Ahmed at the Emory University School of Medicine is working to develop a vaccine that will permit the human immune system to respond with greater vigor when encountering a previously encountered pathogen. Included in this cutting-edge organization are world renowned researchers like Dr. Rao Tummala of the Georgia Institute of Technology, whose interests are the next generation electronic packaging, integral passive components, ultra high-density substrate technologies. These are only a few of the many dedicated researchers and scholars who are helping to shape Georgia's high-tech economy for the 21st century and are ensuring that Georgia becomes an even stronger world-class leader in high-tech development.

There are many others who are working on notable projects, from agricultural biotechnology to water and air quality enhancements to technology-based learning, to e-commerce and wireless communication. All of the Eminent Scholars who have chosen Georgia to undertake their research do so for one reason—the strategic course Georgia has chosen to make its high-tech economy world class by the year 2010.

The major drive in developing Georgia's technology economic sector has been the investment of hundreds of millions of dollars to establish new, leading-edge research programs, especially those involving collaboration between academic and industrial scientists and engineers. These investments have gone to developing research at Georgia's universities and have resulted in tremendous advances in technology related discoveries. These successes are continuing today by investments in people, laboratory construction and specialized instrumentation in support of collaborative research and development.

This year the Alliance is expected to invest an additional \$34 million to continue the progress being made to develop Georgia's technology-based economy. This effort includes \$29.5 million

for laboratory construction in support of collaborative research and development conducted by eminent researchers. Another \$3.75 million will be used to fund endowments that will be used to recruit five additional Eminent Scholars for Georgia. The remaining \$750,000 will be spent to continue the Alliance's highly successful Technology Partnerships which encourage new relationships with industry and assist in the commercialization of university-based research.

One of the highly promising projects that is being considered for future development is a project at the University of Georgia to add world-class and cutting edge animal genomics technology to Georgia's research and business sectors. For another project, it is envisioned that a team of collaborating Eminent Scholars from Albany State University and Georgia State University will be researching solutions on how to effectively deal with water scarcity problems. To help combat global infectious diseases, a collaborative team of respected scholars from Emory University, the Medical College of Georgia, University of Georgia, Georgia State and Georgia Tech will create a unique research program which will lead to the development and commercialization of new vaccines, diagnostics and drugs to prevent and treat infectious diseases that threaten the health of the world's population and livestock. This is only a sample of the extraordinary projects that are envisioned for this year. Just wait until next year. The advancements made by these projects will no doubt create even more exciting high-tech initiatives in the future.

The Alliance, through its hard work and dedicated people, has received worldwide recognition for its achievements and is prepared more than ever before to attract and retain some of the best researchers in the world. The Alliance has already been responsible for generating over 80,000 new jobs since 1990, and they are creating more jobs than ever through the formation of new technology-based companies. These companies are being formed almost daily in Georgia by converting research technology developed in university and industry laboratories into new commercial applications. One example is AviGenics, Inc., a development-stage company formed to commercialize the results of novel laboratory technologies in chicken transgenesis discovered at The University of Georgia. The company's avian transgenesis platform is being used to improve poultry agronomic traits and helping the pharmaceutical industry by producing high volumes of pharmaceutically-important proteins in eggs. Another successful high-tech upstart is the Digital Furnace Corporation. Formed in mid-1998, Digital Furnace is a spin-off from the Broadband Telecommunications

Center led by Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar John Limb, who successfully developed broadband technology to interconnect and automate the entire home. These enterprises are benefitting directly from Georgia's investment in new, state-of-the-art laboratories that the Alliance helped to build.

Even established major information technology companies are being attracted to Georgia by the presence of our strong science and technology programs and the state's commitment to growing the pool of eminent scholars. Today companies like Lucent Technologies are seeking to capitalize on Georgia's high-tech infrastructure. Recently, Lucent Technologies chose Atlanta to be home for its new Wireless Laboratory. The decision was based largely on its ability to work in close partnership with Georgia's great researchers and the Alliance's commitment to establish an eminent scholar chair and invest in a wireless systems laboratory at Georgia Tech. These investments are resulting in Georgia Tech's and Lucent's researchers working in partnership to further develop wireless communication capabilities. This partnership is also helping to bridge the gap between a company's problems and the expertise available at our research universities which, in turn, is resulting in high-tech job creation and retention for the state of Georgia.

The work of the Alliance has only begun and they have great plans to build on their current successes by creating a stronger technology infrastructure in the State in the future. Their goal, as it has been in the past, is to make Georgia's technology economic sector one of the top five in the nation by the year 2010. The outstanding successes of the men and women of the Alliance have already proven that they are capable of achieving this goal. Based on the successes they have already achieved, I believe they will reach their goal sooner than expected. Ladies and gentleman of the Georgia Research Alliance, I am very grateful for your contributions and I am looking forward to your continued successes. Thank you very much for making Georgia a world class leader in technology development and for making Georgia's technology economy one of the best in the nation.●

#### THE IMPACT OF OSTEOPOROSIS

● Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I'd like to take a few moments to address a health issue of critical importance to Americans, especially older women. Osteoporosis affects 28 million Americans, 80 percent of whom are women. Nearly one in every two women and one in every eight men over age 50 will experience an osteoporotic fracture in his or her lifetime. This disease measurably impact the ability of many