Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. HAR- 
kin, Mr. DORGAN, and Mr. DURBIN con- 
ferreees on the Senate bill, I am pleased to 
give a word of appreciation this mor- 
ing to the able and efficient work done 
by the respective staffs. Since last Friday we 
have been working to try to eliminate 
some problems in this bill. Without 
question, they are responsible for the 
speed and dispatch with which we have 
been able to handle this bill.

There are many amendments we are 
now taking to conference that may be 
subject to later modification. We will 
do our very best to defend the Senate 
position as represented by the vote 
that has just been taken in the Senate.

I thank my distinguished friend and 
colleague from Hawaii for his usual co- 
operation. Without it, passage of this 
bill would have been impossible. 

I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask 
that the Senate proceed to a period of 
morning business with Senators per- 
mittted to speak therein for 10 minutes 
each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without 
objection, it is so ordered.

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

Mr. REED. Mr. President, it has been 
nearly 14 months since the Columbine 
tragedy, and over a year since the Sen- 
ate passed common sense gun safety 
legislation as part of the Juvenile Jus-
tice bill that still the Republican ma-
-jority in Congress refuses to act on 
sensible gun legislation.

Since Columbine, thousands of Amer-
icans have been killed by gunfire. Until 
Congress acts, Democrats in the Senate 
will read the names of some of those 
who lost their lives to gun violence in 
the past year, and we will continue to 
do so every day that the Senate is in 
session.

In the name of those who died, we 
will continue this fight.

Following are the names of a few 
Americans who were killed by gunfire 
one year ago, on June 13, 1999:

Robert Ayala, 21, Chicago, IL.
Timothy Croft, 39, Detroit, MI.
Warner Freeman, 21, Philadelphia, 
PA.
James Harley, 40, Baltimore, MD.
Rico Perry, 27, Charlotte, NC.
Wesley Rodenas, 19, San Bernardino, 
CA.
Thoyce Sanders, 45, Dallas, TX.
Charles Stewart, 32, Dallas, TX.
Mario Taylor, 23, Chicago, IL.
Reardo Wilson, 38, Dallas, TX.
Unidentified male, 49, Portland, OR.
Mark Pierce, 36, Providence, RI.

Mr. Pierce was killed in a late-night 
drive-by shooting after a confrontation 
between one of his friends and two young 
men, one 18 and one 21, at a mar-
ina on the Providence River front- 
water. After an initial scuffle, the two 
young men departed and returned with-
in an hour in a car. One of them opened 
fire with a handgun, killing Pierce. It’s 
another example that, in another time in America, might have 
resulted in a bloody nose and a bruised 
ego, but instead took the life of Mark 
Pierce.

And, Mr. President, the gun violence 
continues every day across America. 
Three weeks ago, a 15-year-old girl in 
Providence, who was a key witness for 
the prosecution in an upcoming murder 
trial, was shot with a handgun at point 
blank range in her front yard on a Sun-
day evening. She died the next day. 
She was to testify in the trial of a 19-
year-old charged with shooting to death a 17-year-old last August.

Just this past Friday, in Providence, 
Rhode Island, two college students 
were carjacked at gunpoint, robbed, 
taken to a nearby golf course, and shot 
execution style with a .40 caliber semi-
automatic handgun. The handgun was 
stolen from the car of a photographer 
while he shopped at a local convenience store in February. 
This case makes a strong argument against 
concealed carry laws and other liberal 
gun laws that encourage citizens to 
bring their handguns out of their 
homes and into the streets of our cit-
ies. It also underscores the need for ag-
gressive research into smart gun tech-
ology to ensure that a weapon can only 
be fired by its legitimate owner.

Finally, although in this instance the 
police were able to trace the gun re-
liably quickly because it was stolen in 
Providence and reported by the owner, 
in many cases crime guns cannot be 
traced because law enforcement is 
completely dependent upon the record 
keeping of gun manufacturers and gun 
dealers, and post-retail private sales 
are usually unrecorded. If we registered 
handguns and licensed handgun 
owners, the police could put out an imme-
diate alert when a weapon is reported 
stolen, and they could trace a weapon 
more quickly upon its recovery after a 
horrible crime like this one. In addi-
tion, the assailants would face yet an-
other felony charge for illegal posses-
sion of a weapon not registered to 
them.

Mr. President, twelve young Ameri-
cans lose their lives to gun violence 
every day. That’s a new Columbine 
tragedy every 24 hours. It is time for 
Congress to do its part to reduce gun 
violence by passing sensible gun safety 
legislation to keep firearms out of the 
hands of children and convicted felons. 
We should do so without further delay.

I yield the floor.