As Secretary General Annan stated, the goals of the conference were to address these horrific crimes committed by 'unscrupulous arms dealers, corrupt officials, drug trafficking syndicates, terrorists and others who bring death and mayhem into streets, schools and towns throughout the world.'

The conference’s program of action represents an important first step by the international community toward developing an international framework for cooperation and collaboration to promote better national and international laws and more effective regulations to eliminate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

In fact, the United States has not formally consented to the program for action, so this is a step I urge the Administration to take as soon as possible.

And much more will be needed in the future. Many important issues that should have been addressed by the conference were not and other issues that were did not receive sufficient emphasis.

I am hopeful that, looking ahead, the United States will be able to play a more constructive leadership role as we work towards developing real and binding international norms and agreements on these issues.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Madam President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of this year. The Local law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred August 28, 1993 in New York City. Two gay men were beaten with a golf club by three men outside a Greenwich Village gay bar. Noel Torres, Joseph Vasquez, and David Santiago were charged in connection with the assault.

I believe that government’s first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

HONORING THE HISTORY OF THE
U.S.S. CASSIN YOUNG, DD–793

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I rise today in praise of the Americans with Disabilities Act on the occasion of its 11th anniversary. The advances in law, health care, education and technology promoted in this historic legislation over the past 11 years have given Americans with disabilities a new lease on life.

Today, 53 million Americans live with a disability, and 1 in 8 of them is severely disabled. According to the most recent data available, there are approximately 117,701 individuals six-to-115 years old living with a disability in South Dakota and 57,233 who have a severe disability. Yet due to the landmark Americans with disabilities Act, the stereotypes against these persons are crumbling and they are being able to lead increasingly integrated and fulfilled lives. The Act has guaranteed that people with disabilities be able to live in the most integrated settings possible in their communities.

The Americans with Disabilities Act has also spurred research and improved care for seniors, children and mentally disabled persons. In doing so, the Act has ensured improved quality of life for people living with disabilities and has promised disabled children hope for a successful future. The contributions of the Americans with Disabilities Act over the past 11 years are an inspiration for what can be done to improve the lives of Americans living with disabilities, and a proponent of more progress in the future.

Once again, it gives me great pleasure to recognize and honor today’s celebration on behalf of the millions of disabled Americans throughout this country.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Madam President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, July 25, 2001, the Federal debt stood at $5,725,120,881,956.31, five trillion, seven hundred twenty-five billion, one hundred twenty million, eight hundred eighty-one thousand, nine hundred eighty-one thousand, nine hundred fifty-six dollars and thirty-one cents.

One year ago, July 25, 2000, the Federal debt stood at $5,670,718,000,000, five trillion, six hundred seventy billion, seven hundred eighteen million.

Five years ago, July 25, 1996, the Federal debt stood at $3,181,309,000,000, five