

to determine the appropriate response to this problem. (2) The U.S. should commend those nations in the region that are attempting to police the waters within their jurisdiction and reduce the number of pirate attacks. (3) The U.S. should encourage further regional cooperation, such as the recent agreement between Japan and Southeast Asian nations regarding joint training exercises. (4) Finally, the U.S. should continue to support the actions of the United Nations in addressing the issue of sea piracy. This would include determining the scope of the problem, whether regional actions are adequate, whether further legislation is needed in some countries, and how the U.N. can be of assistance in drafting these new laws and encouraging more effective enforcement capabilities.

Modern-day piracy must be stopped, and the United States can and should be an active partner in the fight against pirate attacks.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. 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 26, 2001, in Portland, OR. Lorenzo Okaruru, according to detectives, died after being savagely beaten about the head and face with a blunt instrument, most likely by a man who picked up someone he thought was a woman and was angered to find out Okaruru was a man. Law enforcement officials have said they believe Okaruru was killed based on sexual orientation or gender identity. The Washington County Sheriff's Office last week classified Okaruru's August 26 beating as a hate crime, the first such killing in the county.

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.

COMMENDING THE SERVICE OF NANCY T. NORTON

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today for the Senate to recognize the dedication and professional contributions made to the United States Senate and the Commonwealth of Virginia by one of my valuable staff members, Nancy T. Norton.

For 2 years Nancy has effectively served as my Legislative Assistant for

Military and Foreign Affairs. She has worked tirelessly in this position to provide sound counsel to me in the formation of military and foreign policy.

More importantly, Nancy brought to this position endless energy and a wealth of compassion and caring as she worked on legislation to improve the quality of life for the men and women of the armed forces, our nation's military retirees and our veterans.

Nancy's distinguished professional career is one of many accomplishments. After having graduated from the United States Naval Academy, Nancy began her service to the country as a Naval Officer and aviator flying the C-130 aircraft. Among the positions she held during her military career, she served as a pilot instructor for the E-6A aircraft and flew worldwide logistic support missions for the Department of Defense, including those in support of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in and around the Pacific Theater. Later, Nancy served as a Congressional Liaison Officer and a Department of Defense Legislative Detailee in the offices of Senator SUSAN COLLINS and former Virginia Congressman Norman Sisisky.

After a time in the private sector, Nancy returned to public service as a member of my staff. She has been a tremendous asset to me as she brought her integrity and professionalism to every task she undertook. All of the members of my staff join me in wishing her every success in the next chapter of her career.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO ALBUQUERQUE COOPERATIVE STUDIES PROGRAM CLINICAL RESEARCH PHARMACY COORDINATING COUNCIL CENTER

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Cooperative Studies Program Clinical Research Pharmacy Coordinating Council Center in Albuquerque, NM. This center will soon be awarded the Robert W. Carey Quality Award by the Department of Veterans' Affairs. This award is VA's highest recognition for quality achievement. The Carey Award honors VA offices that demonstrate organizational effectiveness and high-quality service to our Nation's veterans. The award encourages efficient management by prominently honoring the VA's highest performing offices.

The Albuquerque Pharmacy Coordinating Council Center truly deserves this great honor. The center was founded in 1972 as a part of VA's Cooperative Services Program. This program is responsible for planning and conducting the large multicenter clinical trials within VA, and the Albuquerque center manages all of the pharmaceutical aspects of these trials. The center plays a critical role in planning VA's clinical

trials, packaging clinical trial materials, and monitoring the implementation of clinical trials. These trials have benefitted not only our Nation's veterans, but have improved the health of our entire Nation, by contributing to the rapidly increasing body of medical knowledge.

The center has a staff of over 60 highly trained and experienced pharmacy and management professionals and technicians. Through the efforts of these outstanding employees and under the excellent leadership of Director Dr. Mike Sather, the center has developed a solid reputation within the medical research community. In fact, the center has contributed to ground-breaking medical research in developing treatments for a wide range of diseases from cancer to heart disease to mental illness. The center has also demonstrated its proficiency in its successful collaborations with such institutions as the National Institutes of Health, specifically the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute and the National Institute of Mental Health, as well as the centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The recognition of the Albuquerque center by the VA should come as no surprise to anyone familiar with its history. In fact, the center has previously been recognized for its achievements by Quality New Mexico and has received both the Roadrunner Recognition and the Piñon Award. I congratulate the exceptional leadership and the devoted staff of the Albuquerque Pharmacy Coordinating Council Center on this fine achievement, and I look forward to their future accomplishments in improving the health of our Nation and demonstrating our continued commitment to our Nation's veterans.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:35 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, without amendment:

S.J. Res. 22. Joint resolution expressing the sense of the Senate and House of Representatives regarding the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001.

At 2:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2882. An act to provide for the expedited payment of certain benefits for a public safety officer who was killed or suffered a catastrophic injury as a direct and proximate result of a personal injury sustained in the line of duty in connection with the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.