

BREAUX, BINGAMAN, DODD, and THURMOND. The amendment is based on legislation I introduced with Senator DEWINE earlier this year with seven co-sponsors. Our amendment will allow reservists returning from deployments without health care, to extend their TRICARE coverage for up to 180 days or until their civilian health insurers return their coverage to them.

This legislation would address the circumstances faced by reservists like Capt. Terri McGranahan. She volunteered to be a part of our peacekeeping mission in Kosovo. During her service, she worked in a health clinic that had been newly painted with a toxic sealant. Working in this clinic had made her very ill, resulting in pneumonia. Eventually, she developed a spot on her lung. She did not detect this condition right away. When she finally sought medical treatment, the 30 days of TRICARE coverage had already expired.

When she returned home, her private health insurance company refused to cover her. She asked the Army for help, but was turned down. Captain McGranahan has fallen through the cracks of two health care bureaucracies.

We have to do better than this.

Mr. President, my amendment will provide comfort to thousands of reserve families whose loved ones risk their lives defending our Nation. But more important it would be part of our national effort to unite behind our troops during this time of national crisis.

The bill on which the amendment is based has been endorsed by 28 organizations across the country, including the Reserve Officers Association, National Guard Association, Enlisted Association of the National Guard, the Air Force Association, the Association of the U.S. Army, and several other organizations promoting quality of life for our service men and women.

Over 50,000 reservists may soon be called into service. As President Bush himself has said, "We're talking about somebody's mom, or somebody's dad, somebody's employee, somebody's friend, or somebody's neighbor."

Our initial cost estimate for our original bill was just 5 million dollars a year. This proposal is not extravagant in a \$343 billion defense budget. It is the right thing to do, and it is needed right now. This is not a permanent solution. We need a full health care program for these service men and women. The Defense authorization bill requires the Pentagon to study this issue, and I look forward to reviewing it. But in the meantime, I am pleased to offer this amendment in the name of our Missouri's National Guard and Reservists, as well as our country's other citizen soldiers.

General Eisenhower once said:

Leadership cannot be exercised by the weak. It demands strength—the strength of

this great nation when its people are united in purpose, united in a common fundamental faith, united in their readiness to work for human freedom and peace.

Mr. President, let us assure our citizen soldiers that when they return home, they will not be denied health care because of their military's service. They deserve no less. I thank the Chair.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LEVIN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I move that the Senate stand in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

The motion was agreed to, and at 2:45 p.m. the Senate recessed, subject to the call of the Chair, and reassembled at 3:07 p.m., when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. FEINSTEIN).

Ms. LANDRIEU. Madam President, I come to the floor this afternoon to speak on the subject of our Defense authorization bill.

First, let me say how appreciative I am of the leadership of Senator LEVIN and Senator WARNER. These are two Senators who trust one another and who work beautifully together. I have personally witnessed the work they have done both publicly and during many hours of private negotiations. I cannot thank them enough for their extraordinary leadership at this very important time in our Nation. I truly think that God has blessed us at this time to have these two fine men helping lead the negotiations at this particular time on a very important bill for our country.

President Kennedy reminded us during the height of the cold war that to ensure the peace we must prepare for war. September 11 seems to many of us literally years ago. It was just last week that our preparations for 21st century warfare were cut dramatically short. We had just reached the point where the American public was beginning to comprehend that future wars would, indeed, be very different; We would need a different sort of military to combat them. However, national security infrastructure is a large, lumbering ship. It takes time, focus, patience, and determination to turn its direction.

On September 11, early in the morning, the attention of our Pentagon turned on a dime to this new threat. As all of us are now beginning to under-

stand, 21st century warfare is very different.

I have referred to the current attack on the United States as a silent war. People have asked me what I mean by that. I mean that the resources we employ to fight this war may not be visible on CNN. We will fight electronically, with our special forces, with our intelligence operatives, with psychological operations. It will be a war in which our greatest victories may never be fully appreciated and in which our full vulnerabilities are perceived by only a few.

It is also a silent war because silence is the only real asset of our enemies. When we can identify our foes, they will be eliminated. For that reason, we must be relentless and patient. We are in a chess match with killers. A great deal rides upon its outcome.

My confidence in our victory comes from one simple fact: Our opponents rely on a few pathological minds to win this war. Our Nation can call upon the minds of free-thinking, freedom-loving people around the world to ensure our victory. And ultimately we will prevail.

We have a long journey in front of us. Today we take another step. I commend our chairman, Senator LEVIN of Michigan, and Senator WARNER of Virginia for their outstanding leadership at this time.

As the chairperson of the Emerging Threats Subcommittee, I am clear about the work our committee must undertake over the next few months and perhaps years until the successful conclusion of this conflict. I also sincerely thank the Senator from Kansas, Mr. ROBERTS, our ranking member of this important committee, for his cooperation, his insight, his vision, and his passion on this subject. His advice and counsel and our excellent working relationship have made a difficult task more bearable.

It should be noted that I have determined a new policy for our subcommittee. From now on, all meetings of the Emerging Threats Subcommittee will be bipartisan in nature. We have neither the time, nor do the American people have the patience, for partisan squabbling and bickering because the stakes are so high.

In formulating the Department of Defense budget for the next fiscal year, we considered five priorities. Sadly, recent events have brought three of those priorities to the forefront. We have done very good work recently in ensuring that our military is ready to meet nontraditional threats and to ensure that our Armed Forces are ready to defend our Nation on a moment's notice. Now is the time to enact all of our plans and defend America and its values against this unprecedented challenge to our Nation.

In addition, we have sought to improve the quality of life for our service

men and women and their families. It is the service family who will keep the hearth warm while our fighting men and women are deployed. We must provide them with the quality of life they deserve.

In almost every war of which we are aware and have studied—and many have actually participated in—it was always hard on the family. I imagine and predict that in this war, in some ways it will be harder on families because the intelligence, the secrecy of what we have to do, while it was always important in past wars, is going to be more so. There will be families separated from loved ones for long periods of time and children who will never be able to receive a letter from a father or a mother or to hear their voice for long periods of time. I urge that our Nation give some extraordinary and new thinking to what we might do to support the families who are going to be called to the front lines and, in addition, to recognize while my committee only supervises and oversees the military operations, as our President and as our leaders have so eloquently stated recently, it is not just men and women in uniform who are on the front line, but our firefighters, our local elected officials, our National Guard, business people, in many instances, are on the front line, depending on what their business is. Their families need special consideration.

We have also done important work in improving the efficiencies of the Department of Defense. This will become more crucial in the coming days as our Nation commits its treasury to the present struggle. We must ensure that we invest wisely in the best possible means toward ensuring absolute victory.

There are a few aspects of this legislation of which I am particularly proud. We have made a significant investment in upgrading and sustaining our fighters and our bombers. Any student of modern history cannot overlook how important these are to conducting modern war and how vital they will be to achieving victory in this new type of war.

In this bill, we have authorized a 5-percent pay raise for all of our service personnel. Perhaps it can be more. Perhaps 5 percent is not enough. We can revisit that issue. It is another step along with an 8-percent pay raise that was done the year before and raises the year before to make the paycheck begin to match—which it can never quite do, obviously—the sacrifices our men and women are called on to perform.

As we contemplate the tasks that our men and women in uniform face, we are made aware of our duty to properly compensate them and their families and to support them financially, psychologically, emotionally and, in many ways, spiritually.

We have provided a guarantee that our fighting men and women will be able to fully participate in democracy while being deployed abroad. We included language in this bill to ensure that their right to vote will be uninhibited, barriers taken down, and that valid votes will be counted.

This Nation set a precedent in 1864, when we conducted a Presidential election in the midst of a paralyzing war. This bill ensures that we will not allow the current crisis to disrupt our democratic process.

I now focus, briefly, and in conclusion, on the work done by the Emerging Threats Subcommittee in the last few months. Our committee is charged with the task of concentrating on the efforts of the Department of Defense to counter new and emerging threats to our national security interests. Our jurisdiction includes terrorism, the subject that is absorbing the attention of the entire world at this time.

I stress that as the threat of terrorism has emerged in a most horrific way, we must not overlook our other jurisdiction of counterproliferation and chemical warfare. Those responsible for the tragic events of last Tuesday know they must find new ways to threaten our security, and we must be ready for them.

I will concentrate on the subcommittee's work on counterterrorism initiatives just for a moment.

The threat of terrorism can no longer be described as emerging. It has, unfortunately, emerged. The subcommittee has done substantial work in protecting our Nation from the terrorist threat, but it is obvious that we must do more.

There is no doubt in my mind that in the coming days we will see the work of this committee increase and our efforts redouble to stem the tide of terrorism here on our homeland. We have sought to meet the immediate needs of the services and commanders for counterterrorism initiatives and force protection. These initiatives include \$14.3 million to fund enhanced counterterrorism training for the special operations command—a very special command now in this new war with this emerged threat—which has a mission of defeating terrorist actions. This is a crucial investment. There will be more to be made in the future, and I call on all Members of Congress and the President to understand the critical importance of significant investment in this particular area.

In our bill, we have \$10 million to increase and formalize the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff combating terrorism readiness initiative fund, which allows commanders in the field to fund emergent, high-priority requirements. Again, this was the amount of money put in prior to 9/11. I am certain, as we have time to confer with each other and revisit the budget

allocations again, there can be additional funding authorization so that our commanders in the field have no barrier to protect their forces and to protect Americans wherever they may be in the world.

We also devoted \$107 million to the Departments of Defense and Energy for detecting, defending against, and responding to the use of weapons of mass destruction. This includes funds allocated for chemical and biological detection and prevention.

The attack initiated against the United States last week was committed with a rather crude weapon of mass destruction. It is important that we keep our guard up against other more sophisticated weapons.

Additionally, we have devoted over \$77 million to establish minimum access and entry controls at military installations abroad. As security is increased on installations both domestically and abroad, these funds are needed now more than ever.

But while we focus on the threat that has emerged, it is important that we also address the proliferation of nuclear weapons. As our enemy searches for new and innovative and very destructive ways to attack us, it is important that we deny him access to the most destructive weapons. The markup package fully funds—and I am very proud that this decision was made last week—the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program at the DOD budget request level of \$403 million. Included in the \$403 million is \$50 million for destruction of Russian chemical munitions. Before the program can spend the money to destroy the Russian chemical munitions, however, DOD must meet certain prerequisites. These prerequisites include a Russian commitment to contribute \$25 million to the program per year. These prerequisites are based on those originated by Senator ROBERTS last year.

We also cannot overlook chemical and biological weapons that can inflict unthinkable, unbearable harm on our civilian population and our men and women in the field. That is why our committee devoted over \$1.2 billion for demilitarization. Additionally, we have acquired vaccines to combat the threat of chemical and biological weapons and are in the process of making that entire system much more robust, and that work is well underway.

Let me close by proclaiming my extreme confidence and admiration for the men and women of our Armed Forces. They have trained day in and day out for their ultimate mission. And now we must all call on them to fulfill that mission. I am confident they are up to the task because, as I said in my opening, this war that we fight does not necessarily rely on the genius and strength of our President, although he showed great strength and genius last night. It doesn't just rely on the great

strength of the 100 of us in this Chamber, but it rests squarely and stably and securely on the shoulders of every American everywhere, our allies, and of free-thinking people who have been inspired by God over the centuries to fight this war. That is why I know we will win and we will all do our part.

I yield back the remainder of my time.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, at this tragic time in our Nation's history, it is time for the Senate to lay aside politics and focus on the needs of our country, especially those of the men and women of our military services. The National Defense Authorization Bill for Fiscal Year 2002 is the key legislation that this Senate will consider this year to provide critical funding and legislative authority to the Department of Defense so it can carry out its national security role. The bill also includes important provisions to improve the quality of life for our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines. These men and women will be the spears in the fight to rid this world of the terrorist that threaten not only this great Nation, but all peace loving people throughout the world.

The fact that we are considering this important legislation at this time is a reflection of the bipartisan effort to support this nation. I joined my Republican colleagues on the Armed Services Committee in voting against reporting out the Defense Authorization Bill for Fiscal Year 2002. I would have joined my colleagues in voting against final passage of this bill if the onerous provision on the future course of the deployment of ballistic missile defenses had not been struck from the bill. By removing the provisions that would have hindered the President's ability to deploy an effective National Missile Defense System, Chairman LEVIN has come a long way toward assuring passage of this important legislation and laid aside partisanship in favor of unity.

I will support this important legislation in its current form, although I have significant reservations regarding the section 821 which severely restricts Federal Prison Industries' ability to sell to the Department of Defense. Since the Department is FPI's largest customer, my concern is that this provision would severely harm FPI and its essential mission in keeping inmates safely and productively occupied.

FPI is an essential program that maintains prison safety and security. It keeps thousands of prisoners working and productively occupied, which helps prevent mischief and violence. Also, it is the most successful government program for teaching inmates job skills that they can use in the private sector when they are released. It does all of this without any cost to the taxpayers. Because of these concerns and the fact that this matter is under the

jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee, I will join any effort to strike this provision and am optimistic that it will not survive to see the light of day.

Under the leadership of our new Chairman Senator LEVIN and the Ranking Member, Senator WARNER, the Armed Services Committee included many provisions and funding items that the administration supports and will have a significant impact on readiness and quality of life. The bill provides \$10.5 billion for military construction and family housing construction. It adds more than \$232.0 million to increase the Basic Allowance for Housing to further reduce the out-of-pocket expenses housing costs for service members and their families. It adds more than \$1.0 billion to the budget request to improve the readiness of U.S. forces.

The bill also includes significant funding to improve the capability of our forces to meet the nontraditional threats that we will face in the coming years. These threats, as so tragically evidenced on September 11, are not only focused on our Armed Forces, but the heart and soul of our nation, its citizens.

I am especially pleased that this bill contains significant funding levels to support the operations, especially environmental clean-up, at the Savannah River Site in my home State. Additionally, the bill includes the bill makes a strong statement, which was inserted at my request, regarding plutonium disposition. I believe that now more than ever we must eliminate the threat that this material pose. I strongly urge the Department of Energy to follow the RECORD of Decision on plutonium disposition and build the MOX fuel fabrication plant otherwise the Savannah River Site may be forced to store plutonium indefinitely, which is an unacceptable situation.

Although this bill came to the floor under a shadow, I urge the Senate to unite and put aside the partisan interest for the sake of the Nation and, more importantly, for the sake of the men and women who may soon be thrust into harms way.

Mrs. CARNAHAN. Mr. President, I would like to associate myself with remarks of the chairman and ranking member on the pending legislation.

Several months ago, I called for a new national commitment to our armed forces. I said that we need to reassess who the enemy is, redesign our military for a new century, and rededicate ourselves to our men and women in uniform and their families.

I am pleased to report that the Defense Authorization bill does all of those things. As our armed forces prepare for a long struggle against terrorism, they count on full support from this Congress.

This legislation authorizes \$343.5 billion for national defense programs, the

full amount requested by the administration. And it goes beyond what the administration requested in pay increases and quality of life improvements for the men and women of the armed forces.

The bill also provides additional investments to redesign our military capabilities. It will enhance our airlift capabilities, which will allow US forces to mobilize quickly and respond to crises and terrorist threats around the globe. A centerpiece of this effort is the C-17, produced in my home State of Missouri. I am proud to have worked closely with Senators LEVIN, WARNER, KENNEDY, and SESSIONS, to authorize an additional multi-year contract for this versatile aircraft.

In addition, the committee worked to improve the country's defenses against emerging threats. It adds \$600 million to the administration's budget proposal to combat terrorism and weapons of mass destruction attacks.

The bill will help us shape a new force structure to respond quickly, forcefully, and effectively against terrorists. Senators LANDRIEU and ROBERTS, in particular, helped develop an important framework for responses to threats against our homeland. We have recommended that the Pentagon review its antiterrorism defenses. It should ascertain how various parts of the Defense Department can better coordinate preventative measures and responses to such attacks.

I have the honor of being my State's first Senate Armed Services Committee member in nearly 25 years. I have enjoyed working with my colleagues, Senators LEVIN and WARNER, to help craft this bill. This legislation is good for Missouri, but far more importantly, it is good for America. It will strengthen our military, enhance quality of life for our armed forces, and prepare our Nation to confront the terrorists head-on.

In every generation, Americans have risen to threats against our freedom. Now we must do so again. We must make a new national commitment to our armed forces.

By passing this bill, let us send a message to the terrorists and those who harbor them: America is ready. Your days are numbered.

Mr. President, I thank the Chairman and the Ranking Member for their leadership, and I enthusiastically support this bill.

MUKILTEO LAND TRANSFER

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, today I am pleased to offer an amendment to the fiscal year 2002 Defense Authorizations bill improving upon a land transfer included in the fiscal year 2001 Defense Authorizations bill. Last year, I worked to include language transferring the 22 acre Mukilteo Tank Farm from the United States Air Force to