

lessons about health policy and the process to develop that policy. This training and the unique opportunities created by working on the health staffs of Members of Congress and in the Executive Branch have allowed RWJ Fellows to participate in every major health care debate over the last 25 years.

Marion Ein Lewin has served as the guiding light for the last 14 classes of RWJ Fellows. As teacher, mentor and policy analyst, Marion has helped new Fellows understand the history and opportunities of health policy. She has introduced Fellows to the most important health policy thinkers in the country. The greatest testament to her extraordinary impact is the warmth and fondness departing Fellows feel for her.

Appropriately, Marion's experience in health policy began in a Member's office. She served as the Legislative Assistant for Health for Congressman James H. Scheurer (D-NY), where she helped develop legislation and performed all the activities of a Congressional staffer.

Though Marion is known for her grace and warmth, she has made substantial contributions to the annals of American health policy. Marion's broad experience in health policy was bolstered by stints at the American Enterprise Institute and the National Health Policy Forum. She became director of the AEI Center for Health Policy Research before joining the Institute of Medicine. While at AEI, Marion edited five texts on health policy.

During her 14 years on the staff of the Institute of Medicine, Marion served as the study director for three IOM reports on critical issues ranging from improving Medicare, to the impact of information on the development of health policy, to the status of safety net providers. While at the IOM, she also directed the Pew Health Policy Fellowship.

Now, after 14 years, Marion Ein Lewin has decided to leave her pivotal role in the Robert Wood Johnson Fellowship. Her influence upon the 85 Fellows who served during her tenure is indelible. She has overseen the transformation of academic faculty into reasonable facsimiles of congressional health LAs. Fellows have provided my staff and me incalculable assistance over the years, and I know other Members of Congress and the administration share my appreciation. Marion's guidance has enabled these Fellows to make these valuable contributions as we seek to improve the healthcare system in our country.

Through the dint of her long service and extraordinary knowledge of health policy, Marion has come to personify the Fellowship and its values. It is hard to imagine the Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellowship without Marion Ein Lewin. Mr. President, I ask

my Senate colleagues to join me in congratulating Marion and the Robert Wood Johnson Program on their many successes, and sending a heartfelt thank you for her many years of dedicated service. Marion has made a genuine difference in health care. We wish her well and expect her to continue her good work as she enters this new phase in her life.

IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I am grateful to President Chen Shui-bian and Ambassador C.J. Chen of the Republic of China on Taiwan for their support of the United States in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks on New York and Washington.

Taiwan was one of the first countries to declare its unequivocal support and cooperation with the United States, and deserves our gratitude for its firm stand with us.

In offering us whatever we need to combat worldwide terrorism, Taiwan has demonstrated its unity with America during our time of grief. During this period of turmoil and anxiety, I remind my colleagues that Taiwan will mark its National Day on October 10.

In recent years Taiwan has sought to return to the United Nations. I believe we should give Taiwan our support. The Republic of China on Taiwan is a democracy guaranteeing rights to all its citizens; it is one of the most important economic entities in the world; and despite its small population, 23 million people, Taiwan has financial resources surpassing those of many western countries.

Sadly, the international community accords Taiwan less recognition than many other non-state entities, including the terrorist Palestine Liberation Organization.

As the people of Taiwan, the East Asian region's leading free market democracy, celebrate their National Day on October 10, we should commend them for their successes and encourage other nations to support Taiwan's participation and membership in international organizations.

COMMON SENSE ON FIFTY CALIBER WEAPONS

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, long-range fifty caliber sniper weapons are among the most powerful firearms legally available. According to a rifle catalogue cited in a 1999 report by minority staff on the House Government Reform committee, one manufacturer touted his product's ability to "wreck several million dollars' worth of jet aircraft with one or two dollars' worth of cartridge." Some fifty caliber ammunition is even capable of piercing several inches of metal or exploding on impact.

These weapons are not only powerful, but they're accurate. According to the Government Reform staff report, the most common fifty caliber weapon can accurately hit targets a mile away and can inflict damage to targets more than four miles away.

Despite these facts, long-range fifty caliber weapons are less regulated than handguns. Buyers must simply be 18 years old and submit to a Federal background check. In addition, there is no Federal minimum age for possessing a fifty caliber weapon and no regulation on second-hand sales.

Given the facts on fifty caliber weapons, I'm pleased that Senator FEINSTEIN has introduced a bill, which I have cosponsored, that would change the way they're regulated. Senator FEINSTEIN's bill would ensure that fifty caliber weapons could only be legally purchased through licensed dealers. Her bill would also ensure that they could not be purchased second-hand. Buyers would have to fill out license transfer applications with the ATF, supply fingerprints and submit to a detailed FBI criminal background check. By any measure Senator FEINSTEIN's bill makes sense and I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring the bill.

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 April 13, 2001 in San Antonio, TX. According to police, a 39-year-old man was attacked because the suspect thought he was a homosexual. The victim had stopped in a park to look at some rocks when a man with a knife came up behind him. The man held the victim in a bear hug before stabbing him in the chest with a knife that he described as a three-inch Buck knife. The suspect allegedly called him anti-gay names as he stabbed him.

I believe the 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.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH 2001

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise to celebrate our Nation's 33rd Hispanic Heritage Month, which commemorates Hispanic Americans and their contributions to the strength of our Nation in the past, present, and future.