

BIDEN was the chairman on the Democrat side, was a full judiciary.

Today we have almost 100 vacancies, and we have to do something about it, but we are not doing it with regard to these circuit court of appeals judges and I sure want to get that going.

I hope our distinguished chairman and others on the committee will help this President get done the nominations he has so carefully, I think, selected.

I yield the floor.

Mr. HARKIN. I am constrained, after listening to my good friend from Utah talk about nominating judges and vacancies—I cannot let the moment pass without pointing out that on the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals there is a vacancy today. That vacancy is there because my friends on the other side of the aisle would not let us vote last year on the former attorney general of Iowa, Bonnie Campbell, to take that position as circuit court judge on the Eighth Circuit Court.

She had a hearing, she came out of committee, but they would not let us bring her name up on the floor for a vote. She was perfectly qualified to be on the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. As I said, we had all the hearings. She was supported by everyone. Yet they would not permit her name to come up for a vote before we left last year.

Bonnie Campbell is not on the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals today because of pure politics. Because the Republicans, those on that side, last year—I guess correctly—thought they were going to win the national election and therefore they didn't have to put through any judges on the circuit courts.

So Bonnie Campbell—there is a vacancy there today because of politics. Not that she wasn't qualified. I always said bring her up for a vote; if people want to vote against her, vote against her—just the same argument the Senator from Utah made right now. I made the same argument last year. Bonnie Campbell is qualified. No one says she is not. Let's bring her up for a vote. Yet the leadership on that side prevented us from ever having a vote on Bonnie Campbell's nomination to be Eighth Circuit Court judge.

I hope my friend from Utah doesn't want to preach too much to me, to this Senator, about politics being involved in circuit court judges. I know full well what happened last year. It is on the record. This Senator stood at the desk right back there, day after day, asking that Bonnie Campbell's name come up for debate and vote. Every time it was objected to by the other side. So I don't really need any lectures about politics being involved in judicial nominations.

#### ELECTION REFORM AGREEMENT

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I am pleased that Senators DODD, MCCON-

NELL, SCHUMER, BOND, and TORRICELLI were able to reach agreement on a strong, bipartisan election reform bill.

Studies of the 2000 elections have made it clear that outdated and unreliable technology, confusing ballots, language barriers, lack of voter education, lack of poll-worker training, and inaccurate voting lists all added up to the disenfranchisement of six million voters.

These problems are unacceptable, and, as a Nation, we can't afford to repeat them. Our Federal system leaves it to individual States to conduct their own elections; but Congress has an obligation to see to it that election mechanisms and procedures in every county in every State guarantee every eligible citizen a voice in the democratic process.

Under this agreement, States will be required to meet minimum standards, and a bipartisan committee will be created to set those standards.

This bill requires that election officials notify voters of overvotes and give them the opportunity to correct a flawed ballot before it is cast. It will establish statewide computerized voter registration lists.

This bill further guarantees that voting machines be made accessible to people with limited English proficiency and people with disabilities, and that provisional ballots be made available to people whose names do not appear on voting lists. Those ballots would be set aside until it can be determined whether the individual's name was mistakenly left off the registration list. If it was, the vote is then counted.

Finally, this bill provides the real resources these real reforms demand.

As we protect our democracy from its external enemies, we must also fix its internal flaws. That is what this compromise bill will do, and I look forward to working to get it passed early in the next session.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARIE MOORE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to one of my departing staff who has been working in my personal office for almost 4 years. Marie Moore has served as my Deputy Press Secretary since May 1998, and has distinguished herself in many ways. She has handled her duties with grace and professionalism, and quite frankly has set the standard for those who will follow her in this very demanding position.

Marie has served with me during some of our Nation's most historic and sometimes very difficult and dramatic events. On occasion these events have demanded very much of her, as they did all Senate staff members but particularly those who are required to deal one on one with a sometimes skeptical or hostile media. She certainly leaves Washington with some memo-

ries and experiences which will benefit her professional career and her personal life for many years to come.

Marie's tenacious work ethic and organizational skills have benefited our office's operation greatly. Both are exemplary. Maybe she learned these attributes at Ole Miss, where she graduated with a journalism degree just before coming to Washington. However, I suspect the best of Marie Moore is a product of her wonderful family and upbringing back in Holly Springs, MS. Only a few short days after joining my staff, Marie began reorganizing the press shop, adding new filing cabinets, rearranging furniture, finding more space for this or that, all for the better. She has demonstrated a tremendous capacity for leadership. She knows how to take charge and really get things done with presented with virtually any challenge. For instance, in addition to working on my staff, Marie has been an active member of the Mississippi Society of Washington, helping to organize events and recruit new members. She has also selflessly assisted me and my staff in a number of other duties, not necessarily in her job description, but tasks which must be done and require an exceptional degree of patience, understanding, and skill.

She is excellent with my constituents who come to Washington. Marie has always provided a friendly face and warm welcome for the many visitors I receive each day, and she is always quick to entertain them with refreshments or conversation if they have to wait. Additionally, she has done a wonderful job in handling the many photographs which are required of a U.S. Senator. Marie always makes sure those seeking a photo with me have that opportunity, and that these many photos get back to those with whom I have met.

Marie has proven to be press savvy, something we all value here in Washington. She has a keen mind for what may or may not be a news item, and in their regard shows experience well beyond her years. Marie knows how to meet deadlines, how to prioritize and most importantly how to get information to the public in an effective, comprehensive and timely manner.

We all know people who are somehow just prone to being successful in anything they undertake. Marie is one of those people. I have no doubt, that whatever career path is are in Marie Moore's future, she will succeed.

May I add, for those Americans who sometimes make negative generalization about America's younger people, Marie Moore is just the opposite in every way. She is an example of the best in America's future. She is an asset to our country and to this institution. I will miss her very much, and so will many other people in the U.S. Senate who work with Marie on a daily

basis. Marie made it a point to know names, remember faces throughout the Capitol and Senate Office Buildings, just as she did with our visitors. I know the folks down in the Senate recording studio, the photo studio, the service department and a host of other Senate offices share my sentiments about Marie, and our loss. But, we wish Marie the very best in her new endeavor, and I certainly hope she will stop by and visit when back in Washington.

**SECRET HOLDS ON THE 21ST CENTURY DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT**

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am disappointed that one or more Republican Senators are holding up final passage of the 21st Century Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act, H.R. 2215.

This bipartisan bill is supported by the Bush Administration and cosponsored by Senator HATCH, the ranking Republican Member of the Judiciary Committee. It was unanimously approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee back on October 30.

This bill, with a bipartisan amendment authored by Senator HATCH and myself, has cleared the Democratic cloakroom for final passage but someone on the other side of the aisle has placed a secret hold on it. I would urge my Republican friends to permit the Senate to take up and pass this critical legislation.

The 21st Century Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act, provides permanent enabling authorities which will allow the Department of Justice to efficiently carry out its mission.

At a time when the Department of Justice is conducting the most sweeping investigation into terrorist conspiracies in our Nation's history, the Senate should pass this legislation.

Indeed, Title II our bipartisan bill provides the Department of Justice with additional law enforcement tools in the war against terrorism. Section 201 permits the FBI to enter into cooperative projects with foreign countries to improve law enforcement or intelligence operations, and Section 210 provides special "danger pay" allowances for FBI agents in hazardous duty locations outside the United States.

In addition, the bill as passed by the Committee, contains language offered by Senator FEINSTEIN to authorize a number of new judgeships.

Title III of this bipartisan legislation authorizes eight new permanent judgeships as follows: five judgeships in the Southern District of California; two judgeships in the Western District of Texas; and one judgeship in the Western District of North Carolina. Section 312 would also convert two temporary judgeships in Illinois into permanent

judgeships, create one new temporary judgeship in the Western District of North Carolina, and extend the temporary judgeship in the Northern District of Ohio for five years.

I strongly support Senator FEINSTEIN's amendment, as do many of my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee on a bipartisan basis, including Senator DEWINE, Senator DURBIN, Senator EDWARDS, and others. I believe that the need for these new judgeships is acute.

Finally, the bill creates a separate Violence Against Women Office to combat domestic violence. This section of the bill was crafted by Senator BIDEN and Senator SPECTER—another bipartisan partnership in this legislation. There is strong bipartisan support in the House and Senate to create a separate Violence Against Women Office within the Department of Justice.

Senator HATCH and I have also worked together to craft a bipartisan floor amendment which compiles a comprehensive authorization of expired and new Department of Justice grants programs and improvements to criminal law and procedures.

For example, our bipartisan floor amendment authorizes Department of Justice grants to establish 4,000 Boys and Girls Clubs across the country before January 1, 2007. This bipartisan amendment authorizes Department of Justice grants for each of the next 5 years to establish 1,200 additional Boys and Girls Clubs across the Nation. In fact, this will bring the number of Boys and Girls Clubs to 4,000. That means they will serve approximately 6 million young people by January 1, 2007.

In 1997, I was very proud to join with Senator HATCH and others to pass bipartisan legislation to authorize grants by the Department of Justice to fund 2,500 Boys and Girls Clubs across the Nation. We increased the Department of Justice grant funding for the Boys and Girls Clubs from \$20 million in 1998 to \$60 million in 2001. That is one reason why we have now 2,591 Boys and Girls Clubs in all 50 States and 3.3 million children are being served. It is quite a success story.

But the authorization for these Department of Justice grants to Boys and Girls Clubs across the country has expired. This bipartisan legislation will renew and expand these grants.

Parents, educators, law enforcement officers, and others know we need safe havens where young people can learn and grow up free from the influence of the drugs and gangs and crime. That is why the Boys and Girls Clubs are so important to our Nation's children.

Our bipartisan amendment also includes the Drug Abuse Education, Prevention, and Treatment Act of 2001. I am pleased that we have included in this package the version of S. 304 that the Judiciary Committee passed unanimously on November 29. This legislation ushers in a new, bipartisan ap-

proach to our efforts to reduce drug abuse in the United States. It was introduced by Senator HATCH and I in February. Senator HATCH held an excellent hearing on the bill in March, the Judiciary Committee has approved it, and the full Senate should follow the committee's lead. This is a bill that is embraced by Democrats and Republicans alike, as well as law enforcement officers and drug treatment providers.

This legislation provides a comprehensive approach to reducing drug abuse in America. I hope that the innovative programs established by this legislation will assist all of our States in their efforts to address the drug problems that most affect our communities.

Our bipartisan amendment also includes provisions to protect witnesses who provide information on criminal activity to law enforcement officials by increasing maximum sentences and other improvements to the criminal code.

And our bipartisan legislation contains amendments, authored by Senator SESSIONS, that modify the Paul Coverdell National Forensic Science Improvement Act of 2000 to enhance participation by local crime labs and to allow for DNA backlog elimination. I was proud to cosponsor the Coverdell grants bill last year and support it to help bring the necessary forensic technology to all states to improve their criminal justice systems.

The 21st Century Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act should result in more effective, as well as efficient, Department of Justice for the American people. But it must pass the Senate soon and be reconciled with the House-passed bill in a conference.

I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to lift the secret hold on this bipartisan legislation to support the Department of Justice.

**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 January 14, 1993 in Macon, GA. Elizabeth Davidson, a 25-year-old lesbian, was fatally shot in a bar. The attacker, Deion N. Felton was charged with murder in connection with the crime. An accomplice, Shawn Hightower, 16, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit aggravated assault. Felton and Hightower allegedly were engaged in a plan to rob homosexuals at the time of the killing.