

VOINOVICH's legislation, S. 1271, the Small Business Paperwork Relief Act of 2001, as well as my amendment to improve the legislation for the benefit of America's small businesses.

While legislation such as the Regulatory Flexibility Act, and the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act have made great strides in helping to ease the regulatory burden on our small businesses, more work remains to be done.

In the report prepared by the Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy on the recommendations of the White House Conference on Small Business in 1995, the Office of Advocacy stated that, "Federal, State and local governments impose numerous requirements on the operation of businesses. The burdens associated with these requirements are often exacerbated by substantial paperwork and record-keeping requirements. In addition to the cost and administrative burdens, small and growing businesses have difficulty simply keeping abreast of the various regulatory and paperwork requirements." Six years later, this statement is still true.

While I support the Small Business Paperwork Relief Act, I think it is important to point out that I objected to an original request to pass this legislation by unanimous consent because the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, which I Chair, has jurisdiction over some of the issues included in this legislation. Additionally, the expertise of the Committee on issues of importance to small businesses can only serve to enhance any legislation designed to help our nation's small businesses. That being said, Senator VOINOVICH and I have addressed my questions about the legislation and agreed to an amendment. I believe the bill is better because of our work.

The legislation originally called for the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, OMB, to appoint members to the "Task Force" created in the legislation from the various agencies listed in the bill. Although I had no objection to the Task Force being led by the OMB Director, I did have reservations about the OMB Director selecting the participants, a function that should be vested with each agency head. The amendment makes this change.

Additionally, my amendment has a provision stating that in any report issued by the Task Force, minority views must be included. This provision has been added as a result of my consultations with SBA's Office of Advocacy, who were concerned that reports issued on small business issues may not reflect the views of small business advocates. By allowing minority opinions, any report issued by the Task Force will at the very least contain concerns raised by the small business community.

My amendment also adds the National Ombudsman to the list of recipients receiving bi-annual reporting on the number of enforcement actions taken by agencies. The National Ombudsman, located at the SBA, serves as a confidential resource to field complaints and comments from small businesses about the regulatory process and actions taken by regulatory agencies. Additionally, the National Ombudsman rates Federal regulatory agencies on their treatment of small businesses and issues a report card. Therefore, I felt it appropriate that agency information regarding regulatory enforcement be shared with the National Ombudsman.

Finally, my amendment makes a technical change in the legislation to reflect the name change of the Senate Committee on Small Business to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, which occurred on June 29 of this year.

I would just like to state that I believe the changes my amendment makes will provide additional support for our small businesses suffering from paperwork burdens.

#### 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 in November 1996 in Charlottesville, VA. Three men abducted, robbed, and beat a gay man. One of the assailants, Billy Ray McKethan, 19, pleaded guilty to charges brought against him in connection with the incident, and was sentenced to 20 years in prison without parole.

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.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO JAMES KEVIN O'CONNELL

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and submit for the RECORD the eulogy delivered by my colleague from Connecticut, Senator JOE LIEBERMAN, at the December 5 funeral mass for his beloved friend, James Kevin O'Connell. I urge all my col-

leagues to take the time to read this heartfelt tribute to a man who so touched Senator LIEBERMAN, as well as anyone else who had the pleasure to have known him, as did I.

Jimmy O'Connell was best known as Senator LIEBERMAN's driver for 30 years, but as Senator LIEBERMAN makes clear in his beautiful tribute, Jimmy was much, much more than that. One could not have known Jimmy without thinking him a friend, someone to whom you could turn for a quick joke, or a deep philosophical insight.

Jimmy, born and raised in New Haven, was truly a great Nutmegger, and a fine American. He spent his life caring for his family, his friends, and his community, Jimmy served for 3 decades as a proud member of the New Haven Police force.

Senator LIEBERMAN's tribute reminds us of the value of life, the value of relationships, and the special place in our hearts for Jimmy O'Connell.

The eulogy follows:

I want to thank Mrs. Agnes O'Connell, Brother Kevin O'Connell and the rest of Jimmy's family for giving me the honor of speaking at this funeral mass for him. And, I also want to thank the O'Connell family for all they did to make James Kevin the wonderful man he was.

When a newspaper reporter called on Sunday and asked how I would describe what Jimmy did for me, the words that came out of my mouth were that Jimmy's friendship was one of God's greatest gifts to me. That is how I would describe what he did for me. Jimmy was my friend.

For more than three decades, 31 years, I benefitted from Jimmy's wise counsel, his extraordinary intelligence, his warm wit, and his absolute loyalty. I didn't like it when someone referred to Jimmy as my driver because he was so much more than that. But he did drive, and together we had quite a ride over these three decades and met quite a variety of people along the way. We extended each other's reach. From his original political hero Dick Lee to Donald Trump, from Arthur Barbieri to Ariel Sharon, from Vinnie Mauro to Teddy Kennedy. From Hank Parker to Hosni Mubarak, from Jose Cabranes in his Federal Court Chambers in New Haven to Joe Dougherty at his Federal prison cell in New York. Before I left for Washington to become a U.S. Senator in 1989, Jimmy took me for blessings from Archbishop Whalen in Hartford to Rabbi Schneerson in Brooklyn. Together we went from Ridgefield to Riverdale, Westville to Washington, from Legion Avenue to Los Angeles, from Fairhaven to Florida. Now, I can hear Jimmy saying, "if there were a few more Fairhaveners counting votes in Florida, you would have flown up here this morning on Air Force Two."

Every now and then during our travels, I would ask Jimmy whether he was following the right directions, and he would quickly and decisively instruct me as to my role in our relationship. "You take care of war and peace, and I'll get us safely to our next stop."

And he always did. In all our years and thousands of miles on the road together, Jimmy never had an accident. Now, when one considers how rapidly James drove and how often he drove with one hand at most on the wheel, that safety record is just one more proof of the existence of a caring God.