Nor are respondents acquiring relevant information not contested an study determining if awarding prime or sub contracts to DBEs affects contract costs; 67.5% no study on discrimination against DBE firms; 94.2% no study of discrimination against DBEs by financial credit, insurance or bond markets; 79.5% no study of factors making it difficult for DBEs to compete; and 92.8% no study on the impact of the DBE program on competition and the creation of jobs. (pp. 66-68). Only 26.5% of the respondents have developed and implemented use of a bidding list, although the regulations require such.

The DBE program has been continuously subject to litigation during its almost two decades of existence. Overall, the picture of the DBE program that emerges from the GAO report is one of essential information that is missing, or if available, does not portray any finding of a national pattern of discrimination against DBEs.

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 18, 1998 in New York City. A man who used anti-gay epithets allegedly slashed a gay man in the face with a knife. Oscar Rodriguez, 22, was charged with attempted murder, assault, and criminal possession of a weapon.

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 Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that government’s first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate.

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, June 27, 2001, the Federal debt stood at $5,655,167,264,852.88. Five trillion, six hundred sixty-four thousand, eight hundred sixty-six thousand, two hundred fifty-two dollars and eighty-eight cents.

One year ago, June 27, 2000, the Federal debt stood at $5,614,190,264,852.88. Five trillion, six hundred fifty-two dollars and eighty-eight cents.

Fifteen years ago, June 27, 1986, the Federal debt stood at $2,040,977,000,000. Two trillion, forty billion, nine hundred sixty-seven million, which reflects a debt increase of more than $3.5 trillion, $3,614,190,264,852.88. Three trillion, six hundred fourteen billion, one hundred ninety million, two hundred sixty-four thousand, two hundred fifty-two dollars and eighty-eight cents during the past 15 years.
McDowell has served as President of the Michigan Community College Association, and he has been a member of the Michigan Educational Trust Board, the National Advisory Panel for the Community College Program at the University of Michigan, the American Association of Community Colleges and the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

He has further assisted his community by serving on the board of Wayne County Private Industry Corporation, St. Mary Mercy Hospital and the City of Livonia Ethics Board. This selfless leadership has been recognized by many organizations, including his alma mater—Indiana University of Pennsylvania and Purdue University. Both of these institutions awarded him their distinguished alumni awards. In addition, he was selected one of the top fifty community college presidents in the United States by the Community College Leadership Program at the University of Texas at Austin.

I hope my Senate colleagues will join me in saluting Dr. McDowell for his career of public service, particularly the commitment to education which he has exhibited for the last two decades.

CONCRETE CANOE COMPETITION

- Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I join with my colleagues in support of the Concrete Canoe Competition.

Civil Engineers design the backbone of our Nation’s infrastructure. By designing, building, and maintaining our infrastructure, these engineers have quietly helped to shape the history of our Nation and its communities. Civil Engineers contribute daily to our standard of living through their designing, building, and maintaining our transportation, clean water, and power generation systems.

A great example of civil engineering ingenuity is manifested through the National Concrete Canoe Competition. The Concrete Canoe Competition provides college and university students an opportunity to use the engineering principles learned in the classroom, and apply them in a competitive environment where they further learn important team and project management skills.

I am very pleased to announce that on June 16, 2001, the University of Alabama at Huntsville won an unprecedented fifth national Championship in the Concrete Canoe Competition.

RETIREMENT OF JOHN C. HOY AS PRESIDENT OF THE NEW ENGLAND BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

- Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, it is an honor today to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of John C. Hoy, president of the New England Board of Higher Education, who is retiring this month. Mr. Hoy has dedicated the past twenty-three years to serving the higher education institutions of New England, and his leadership will be greatly missed.

Since he became president of the Board in 1978, Mr. Hoy has led the effort to provide an accessible and affordable education for every New Englander. To accomplish this goal, he established reforms in his own organization, and he also involved individuals and businesses throughout New England in effective partnerships that served students and institutions alike.

Among his primary achievements was the publication of numerous important books, including studies on the relationship between higher education and economic well-being in New England, the links between U.S. competitiveness and international aspects of higher education, and the effects of legal education on the New England economy.

In addition, John Hoy offered much-needed support to minority communities. He established participation by Blacks and Hispanics in higher education, and he worked effectively to increase the number of ethnic minorities completing PhD programs. He also created a scholarship program for Black South African students at South Africa’s open universities under apartheid.

John Hoy also cared deeply about the way technology was changing higher education, in New England and around the country. Under his initiative, the Board explored the promise of biotech industries and manufacturing in New England, and worked to improve technical education, with the help of both professional educators and the private sector. In addition, he worked with other national boards of higher education to coordinate telecommunications among higher educational institutions.

John C. Hoy deserves great credit for all he has done to enhance higher education in New England. His accomplishments are deeply appreciated by all of us who know him, and I welcome this opportunity to wish him a long and happy retirement.

HONORING DR. BERNARD MEYERS

- Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise today to say thank you to Dr. Bernard “Bernie” Meyers, President and General Manager of Bechtel BWXT Idaho, LLC (BBWI). BBWI manages the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEL) for the United States Department of Energy.

The INEL is the third largest employer in the state of Idaho and the largest employer in the hometown of Idaho Falls. For the past 2 years Bernie’s professional and personal skills have helped lead the INEL in its mission to be an enduring national resource that delivers science and engineered solutions to the world’s environmental, energy and security challenges.

On August 1, 2001, Bernie will retire as President of BBWI and assume additional duties on behalf of Bechtel. In addition to his duties as President of BBWI, Bernie is also Senior Vice President in the 30,000 employee worldwide Bechtel organization.

Bernie’s 39-year professional career includes 26 years spent with Bechtel, where he has risen through the nuclear engineering ranks while serving as an Engineer, Supervisor, Project Manager, Vice President, and finally as Senior Vice President.

Bernie’s stewardship of Bechtel BWXT Idaho represents a strong demonstration of Bechtel’s commitment to provide customer satisfaction and operational excellence for the eastern Idaho community. In addition to being a Senior Vice President, Bernie has in the past directed major Bechtel companies, managed North American operations, headed up the firm’s Engineering and Construction operations, managed Bechtel’s nuclear business line and served as an “in-the-trenches” project manager for some $30 billion worth of nuclear power jobs.

During that same time, Bernie gained INEEL-applicable experience in integrating safety through diverse workforces and in serving as a leader in nuclear technologies and nuclear operations. Over the years, he has managed large, complex and highly technical entities; overseen research and development organizations, and helped expand new and existing business lines into both national and international markets. He also has integrated technical, management and business systems across multiple offices, companies, sites, and disciplines.

Bernie is a Fellow in the American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Concrete Institute, and has authored a textbook, as well as more than 60 professional papers. He holds a master’s degree in civil engineering from the University of Missouri and a doctor’s degree in civil engineering from Cornell University.

During his time in Idaho, Bernie Meyers has provided sound thinking, decisive leadership and an intelligent vision for the future of the INEEL. He has provided honest and frequent communications about INEEL activities with Idaho’s Congressional delegation, Idaho elected officials, key stakeholders, business and community leaders and the site’s employees.

Under Bernie leadership, BBWI has proven to be a solid corporate neighbor throughout the state of Idaho. His advocacy for science education has helped to firmly establish the JASON Science Education program in the state, creating an awareness of science