

the benefits of a one-time technological check would far outweigh any possible burden on e-commerce. I also predicted that this provision would increase consumer confidence in the electronic marketplace.

One year later, the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Commerce have issued a report on the impact of E-SIGN's consumer consent provision. In preparing the report, these agencies conducted extensive outreach to the on-line business community, technology developers, consumer groups, law enforcement, and academia. The report concludes:

[T]hus far, the benefits of the consumer consent provision of E-SIGN outweigh the burdens of its implementation on electronic commerce. The provision facilitates e-commerce and the use of electronic records and signatures while enhancing consumer confidence. It preserves the right of consumers to receive written information required by state and federal law. The provision also discourages deception and fraud by those who might fail to provide consumers with information the law requires that they receive."

Significantly, the consumer consent provision is benefitting businesses as well as consumers. The report states that businesses that have implemented this provision are reporting several benefits, including "protection from liability, increased revenues resulting from increased consumer confidence, and the opportunity to engage in additional dialogue with consumers about the transactions." The technological check has not been significantly burdensome, and "[t]he technology-neutral language of the provision encourages creativity in the structure of business systems that interface with consumers, and provides an opportunity for the business and the consumer to choose the form of communication for the transaction."

The report also finds that E-SIGN's consumer safeguards are helping to prevent deception and fraud, which is critical to maintaining consumer confidence in the electronic marketplace.

E-SIGN is a product of bipartisan cooperation, and it is working well for the country. We should learn from experience as we take up new legislative challenges.

IN MEMORY OF OLIVER POWERS

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I rise today to inform my colleagues of the passing of Oliver Bennett Powers a Senior Broadcast Engineering Technician for the Senate, and native of Chickasha, Oklahoma.

Oliver passed away suddenly while vacationing with friends and family near Norfolk, Virginia on June 23, 2001. He was a respected, well-liked, and dedicated member of the Senate Recording Studio staff. He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Anita; two sons, Isaiah and Lucas; his mother, Ella Belle Powers of Chickasha, Oklahoma,

and brother, Roy Powers, of Norman. Our hearts go out to them.

Oliver was a native of Chickasha, Oklahoma, where he graduated from high school in 1971. He was also a graduate of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, also located in Chickasha, and went on to earn a Master's Degree in Journalism from the University of Oklahoma. Oliver began his service to the U.S. Senate in 1986, when he became director of audio and lighting for the Senate.

Oliver will be missed by all of those who knew him through his community, his church, and his work here in the Senate. Oliver embodied the best of what we've come to expect from Oklahomans. He was hard working, yet soft-spoken and gentle; highly professional, yet humble, and always kind and respectful to others. He was representative of so many staff here that work tirelessly and anonymously on behalf of the Senate.

On behalf of the United States Senate, let me say thank you to Anita, Isaiah, Lucas and the other members of the Powers family for sharing him with us these many years. He will be missed.

EXTRADITION OF SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC TO THE U.N. ICTY

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the authorities of Serbia for, at long last, handing over Slobodan Milosevic to the International Criminal Tribunal. It is ironic, and perhaps fitting, that his arrest and transfer to the international court took place on June 28—one of the most noted dates in Serb history, when in 1389 the Serbs were defeated at the battle of Kosovo Polje, ushering in a period of Ottoman Turkish rule. It is my hope that future generations of Serbs will remember June 28, 2001 with the same sense of historic importance and as the beginning of true and long-lasting democracy and respect for the rule of law.

Mr. Milosevic has been charged by an independent, impartial, international criminal tribunal with crimes against humanity and violations of the laws or customs of war against the ethnic Albanian population of Kosovo. And according to the Prosecutor of the Tribunal, we can expect more indictments against him for earlier crimes in Croatia and Bosnia.

His extradition to the Hague is historic, if long overdue. As a former head of state, there were many who believed that he would never be made to answer for the charges against him. That this day finally came underscores the commitment of the international community to investigating and prosecuting individuals for war crimes. And it sets an important precedent in international law; namely, that the Geneva Conventions and their Protocols will be upheld and enforced regardless of one's

position or influence. The message in all of this is clear and inspiring: with patience and perseverance, democracy and the rule of law will prevail.

Serbian Prime Minister Djindjic deserves praise for his leadership on this issue and for recognizing that if Serbia wants to join the democratic family of nations, then it must uphold and respect the rule of law. Many others have contributed their efforts over the years leading up to this historic day and deserve mention: former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, U.S. Ambassador-at-large for War Crimes, David Scheffer, and ICTY Prosecutors Justice Louise Arbour and Carla Del Ponte, to name just a few.

The wars that tore apart the former Yugoslavia—and which threaten Macedonia today—were largely, although not exclusively, of Mr. Milosevic's doing. He fomented extreme ethnic nationalism and unleashed his army and special police forces on the civilian populations of Croatia, Bosnia and Kosovo. Millions of people were driven from their homes and more than a quarter of a million are believed to have died. For his policies he earned himself the name, "the Butcher of Belgrade." His victims deserve accountability and his former citizens deserve to know what was done in their name.

It must be stressed that the Serb people are not on trial; only Mr. Milosevic. The United States seeks friendship and partnership with all of the people of the former Yugoslavia. Our presence and contributions at the donor's conference are evidence of our intentions.

Yet while we welcome yesterday's developments, we must also not forget that 26 accused remain on the run, most of them in Bosnia and Serbia. I call on the accused to turn themselves over to the jurisdiction of the Tribunal to answer the charges against them without further delay. It is the honorable thing to do. But failing this, the local authorities must take swift and decisive action, if necessary, with the support of international peacekeeping troops, to deliver these fugitives from justice to the court in the Hague. There will never be long-lasting peace and stability in the region so long as these individuals remain on the run. The fact that they have evaded justice for so long—in the case of Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic it's already six year's—makes a mockery of justice and it must end.

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 November 6, 1998 in Seattle, Washington. A gay man was severely beaten with rocks and broken bottles in his neighborhood by a gang of youths shouting "faggot." The victim sustained a broken nose and swollen jaw. When he reported the incident to police two days later, the officer refused to take the report.

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.

CELEBRATION OF CAPE VERDE INDEPENDENCE DAY

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise today to join Cape Verdeans in the July 5th celebration of Cape Verde Independence Day.

Every country is rich with its own history and unique story of how it achieved democracy, and Cape Verde is no exception. In 1462, Portuguese settlers arrived at Santiago and founded Ribeira Grande, now Cidade Velha, the first permanent European settlement city in the tropics. After almost three centuries as a colony, in 1951 Portugal changed Cape Verde's status to an overseas province. Then in December 1974, an agreement was signed which provided for a transitional government composed of Portuguese and Cape Verdeans. In 1975, Cape Verdeans elected a National Assembly, which received the instruments of independence from Portugal.

For the first fifteen years of independence, Cape Verde was ruled by one party. Then in 1990 opposition groups came together to form the Movement for Democracy. Working together they ended the one party state and the first multi-party elections were held in January 1991.

Cape Verde now enjoys a stable democratic government. It is an example to other States as to what can be accomplished. These democratic changes have meant better global integration as the government has pursued market-oriented economic policies and welcomed foreign investors. Tourism, light manufacturing and fisheries have flourished. Cape Verde has made the difficult transition from a colony to a successful independent and democratic State.

Today, there are close to 350,000 Cape Verdean-Americans living in the United States, almost equal to the population of Cape Verde itself. These Americans hold a special right since the Cape Verdean Constitution formally considers all Cape Verdeans at home and abroad as citizens and voters. Thus, July 5th is a day of independence for all Cape Verdean-Americans as well as those in Cape Verde.

As we approach the independence day of our own country and reflect on freedom and democracy, it is especially fitting that we remember and celebrate those special independence days of other peaceful democracies, such as Cape Verde. Join with me in wishing all those with direct and ancestral ties to Cape Verde a happy independence day.

HEALTH CARE FOR THE GUARD AND RESERVE

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today in support of S. 1119, a bill that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study of the health care coverage of the military's Selected Reserve.

Most South Dakotans know at least one of the 4,500 current members of the South Dakota Guard and Reserves—the so-called Selected Reserve—or the thousands of former Guardsmen and Reservists. Sometimes, the connection is even more direct. Before joining the Army, my oldest son was a member of the South Dakota Army Guard in Yankton. South Dakota's Guard and Reserve members have supported overseas operations, including those in Central America, the Middle East, Europe and Asia. Members of the South Dakota Air Guard are currently preparing for its mission later this year, where it will patrol the "No-Fly Zone" in Iraq.

South Dakota's Guard and Reserve units consistently rank in the highest percentile of readiness and quality of its recruits. But keeping and recruiting the best of the best in the South Dakota National Guard and Reserves is becoming more of a challenge as our military's operations tempo has remained high while the number of active duty military forces has decreased. This tempo places significant pressure on the members of the reserve component, and has exposed possible health care deficiencies.

Many deploying members and their families have experienced tremendous turbulence moving back-and-forth between their civilian health insurance plans and TRICARE Prime, the military's health care system. Some junior reservists have no health insurance at all. Some figures, for example, have shown that upward of 200,000 Selected Reservists nationwide do not possess adequate insurance. The exact nature of these disturbances and the broader shortfalls of this system are unclear because examinations have not completed.

I am pleased to join with my colleagues in introducing this legislation, which will take a step towards understanding this problem and giving Congress direction on how to solve it. I know how poor health care and broken promises can reduce morale within our military and their families. A poor "quality of life" among our reserve

component and active duty personnel has a direct impact on recruitment and retention of the best and brightest in our Armed Services. I will continue to do all I can to ensure our men and women in the military, veterans, and military retirees have the health care they deserve.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Thursday, June 28, 2001, the Federal debt stood at \$5,663,970,068,775.88, Five trillion, six hundred sixty-three billion, nine hundred seventy million, sixty-eight thousand, seven hundred seventy-five dollars and eighty-eight cents.

One year ago, June 28, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,649,147,000,000, Five trillion, six hundred forty-nine billion, one hundred forty-seven million.

Five years ago, June 28, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,118,683,000,000, Five trillion, one hundred eighteen billion, six hundred eighty-three million.

Ten years ago, June 28, 1991, the Federal debt stood at \$3,537,988,000,000, Three trillion, five hundred thirty-seven billion, nine hundred eighty-eight million.

Twenty-five years ago, June 28, 1976, the Federal debt stood at \$610,417,000,000, Six hundred ten billion, four hundred seventeen million, which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion, \$5,053,553,068,775.88, Five trillion, fifty-three billion, five hundred fifty-three million, sixty-eight thousand, seven hundred seventy-five dollars and eighty-eight cents during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO ABE SILVERSTEIN

• Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a man who employed his knowledge and vision to take America into Space. I am speaking of Cleveland resident, Abe Silverstein, who just passed away this month at 92 years of age, leaving a legacy of invention and innovation in the field of Space Flight.

Abe Silverstein played a part in a number of "space firsts," and received many prestigious honors for his work. In the company of Orville Wright, William Boeing, and Charles Lindbergh, Abe won the Guggenheim Award for the advancement of flight.

Abe Silverstein designed, tested, and operated the world's first supersonic wind tunnel. It was the largest, fastest, and most powerful in the world. The research that was conducted with the tunnel allowed Abe to produce faster combat planes in World War II. This tunnel now resides in the NASA Glenn Space Research Facility in Cleveland, which Abe directed from 1961-1969.