

momentary crisis from becoming a disaster for his country and perhaps for the monarchy itself.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. Each Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate crimes legislation that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

In January 2005, a teenage Texas male was repeatedly beaten by a group of teenage boys. The apparent motivation for this attack was the victim's sexual orientation—he was gay. The attackers punched and repeatedly kicked the victim with a steel-toed boot while yelling slurs regarding his sexual orientation.

I believe that 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 is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

AN ASSAULT RIFLE THAT FITS IN YOUR POCKET

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I call the attention of my colleagues to a warning from several major police organizations that a new high powered and easily concealable handgun, known as the Five-Seven, is easily available to potential criminals and poses a significant threat to our Nation's law enforcement officers. The International Association of Chiefs of Police, the International Brotherhood of Police Officers, and the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives issued the warning late last week.

Belgian firearm manufacturer FN Herstal specializes in military and law enforcement weaponry but has also made its Five-Seven handgun available to private buyers in the United States. The Five-Seven includes a 20-round clip and is capable of firing ammunition that penetrates the body armor commonly worn by law enforcement officials. The FN Herstal Web site boasts that with the Five-Seven handgun, "Enemy personnel, even wearing body armor can be effectively engaged up to 200 meters. Kevlar helmets and vests as well as the CRISAT protection will be penetrated."

These new guns clearly have no sporting purpose and no place on our streets. We should not ignore the concerns of our law enforcement officers

with regard to these dangerous weapons.

The law enforcement community is most concerned about the Five-Seven's ability to kill police officers, even while wearing protective body armor. Bernard Thompson, director of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, commented on the Five-Seven, "No one is safe from a weapon like this. Police body armor won't offer protection if a criminal has this pistol."

The legislative director of the International Brotherhood of Police Officers Steve Lenkhart called the Five-Seven "an assault rifle that fits in your pocket." A recent memo by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement supports this assertion. The memo reportedly states that the Five-Seven has the capabilities of a carbine or rifle but weighs less than 2 pounds when fully loaded. The FN Herstal Web site lists the overall length of the handgun as only 8.2 inches, making it small enough and light enough to be easily concealed by criminals.

Common sense should tell us that there is no reason for civilians to have access to easily concealable handguns with the capability to shoot through body armor. It is important for our elected officials to listen to the warnings of those who put their lives on the line to help keep violent criminals off of our streets. Unfortunately, the Congress also continues its failure to pass commonsense gun safety legislation that, among other things, would reauthorize the 1994 assault weapons ban, close the gun show loophole, and regulate high-powered .50 caliber sniper rifles. I again urge my colleagues to work to pass sensible gun-safety legislation that will help protect our law enforcement officers, families, and communities from military style firearms like the Five-Seven handgun.

TRIBUTE TO PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I rise today to express my condolences to the family of Mr. Zurab Zhvanai, the Prime Minister of Georgia, who died early today in what appeared to have been a tragic accident. My prayers go out to his wife and his three children that he leaves behind.

Prime Minister Zhvania was one of the leading figures that peacefully brought about democratic change in Georgia following the country's fraudulent November 2003 elections. The prime minister, along with Mikail Saakashvili, the current president of Georgia, spearheaded the "Rose Revolution" that toppled the government of Eduard Shevardnadze and ushered in a new era in Georgian history, one that has set Georgia on a pro-Western reform path.

Prime Minister Zhvania was a dynamic young man who became an in-

spiration to millions of Georgians, became a close personal friend of many in the Bush Administration, in Congress, and in Washington, DC, and was viewed throughout the world as a positive force for democratic reform in Georgia. His energy, courage, and humility will be missed, and his contributions to democracy and liberty will not be forgotten.

The death of Prime Minister Zhvania, while tragic, does not spell the end of democratic reforms in Georgia. In fact, his contributions to Georgian democracy will be long lasting. In the short time Prime Minister Zhvania was in power, he and his team began a process of significant institutional reconstruction and orientation that will one day, in the not-so-distant future, firmly entrench Georgia into the western institutions of the European Union and NATO.

Tomorrow, in Tbilisi, a large international conference will convene to discuss Georgia and the Caucasus region integration with the West. And, in less than two weeks, the Community of Democracies will hold a workshop with representatives from more than 17 countries to discuss and develop action plans for further democratic and institutional reform in Georgia. Neither would have occurred had it not been for the courage and dedication to democracy and freedom exhibited by President Saakashvili and his trusted advisor and ally, Zurab Zhvania, which led the Rose Revolution to victory and brought hope to the Georgian people.

I believe that one of the finest tributes to the Prime Minister's memory will be for all of us, in Georgia and in the West, to redouble our efforts to ensure that Zurab Zhvania's aspirations for democracy in Georgia are fully realized in the critical months ahead. Let me say that America will continue to work with the people of Georgia, President Saakashvili, and other Georgian leaders to ensure that their aspiration to become fully integrated into the world's community of nations is met, as expeditiously and irreversibly as possible.

The United States mourns the loss of such an intelligent and vibrant democratic leader as was found in Prime Minister Zhvania. As President Saakashvili was quoted as saying earlier today, "I have lost my closest friend, my most loyal adviser, my biggest ally." Let me say to President Saakashvili and the Georgian people, America shares your loss and honors the accomplishments and memory of Prime Minister Zurab Zhvania.

PROCEDURE—RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, in accordance with Rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I