

magazine, today there are approximately 28,000 adult Web sites promoting hard and soft-core pornography. Together, these sites register many millions of "hits" by websurfers per day.

Mr. President, there is no question that some of the websurfers who are accessing these sites are children. Some, unfortunately, are actively searching for these sites. But many others literally and unintentionally stumble across them. Anyone who uses seemingly innocuous terms while searching the World Wide Web for educational or harmless recreational purposes can inadvertently run into adult sites. For example, when the word "teen" is typed into a search engine, a site titled "Teenagesex.com" is the first search result to appear.

Mr. President, parents have a responsibility to monitor their children's Internet use. This is their proper role, and no amount of governmental assistance or industry self-regulation could ever be as effective in protecting children as parental supervision.

Parental supervision, however, is not possible when children use the Internet while they are away from home, in schools and libraries. The billions of dollars per year the Federal government will be giving schools and libraries to enable them to bring advanced Internet learning technology to the classroom will bring in the Internet's explicit online content as well. These billions of dollars will ultimately be paid for by the American people. So it is only right that if schools and libraries accept these federally-provided subsidies for Internet access, they have an absolute responsibility to their communities to assure that children are protected from online content that can harm them.

And this harm can be prevented. The prevention lies, not in censoring what goes onto the Internet, but rather in filtering what comes out of it onto the computers our children use outside the home.

Mr. President, Internet filtering systems work, and they need not be blunt instruments that unduly constrain the availability of legitimately instructional material. Today they are adaptable, capable of being fine-tuned to accommodate changes in websites as well as the evolving needs of individual schools and even individual lesson plans. Best of all, their use will channel explicit material away from children while they are not under parental supervision, while not in any way inhibiting the rights of adults who may wish to post indecent material on the Web or have access to it outside school environs.

Mr. President, it boils down to this: The same Internet that can benefit our children is also capable of inflicting terrible damage on them. For this reason, school and library administrators who accept universal service support to provide students with its intended benefits must also safeguard them against

its unintended harm. I commend the efforts of those who have recognized this responsibility by providing filtering systems in the many educational facilities that already have Internet capability. This legislation assures that this responsibility is extended to all other institutions as they implement advanced technologies funded by federally-mandated universal service funds.

Mr. President, this bill takes a sensible approach. It requires schools receiving universal service discounts to use a filtering system on their computers so that objectionable online materials will not be accessible to students. Libraries are required to use a filtering system on one or more of their computers so that at least one computer will be appropriate for minors' use. Filtering technology is itself eligible to be subsidized by the E-rate discount. Once a school or library certifies that it will use a filtering system, they will be eligible to receive universal service fund subsidies for Internet access. If schools and libraries do not so certify, they will not be eligible to receive universal service fund-subsidized discounts.

Some have argued that the use of filtering technology in public schools and libraries would amount to censorship under the First Amendment. The Supreme Court has found, however, that obscenity is not protected by the First Amendment. And insofar as other sexually-explicit material is concerned, the bill will not affect an adult's ability to access this information on the Internet outside the school environment, and it will in no way impose any filtering requirement on Internet use in the home. Perhaps most important, the bill prohibits the federal government from prescribing any particular filtering system, or from imposing a different filtering system than the one selected by the certifying educational authority. It thus places the prerogative for determining which filtering system best reflects the community's standards precisely where it should be: on the community itself.

Mr. President, more and more people are using the Internet each day. Currently, there may be as many as 50 million Americans online, and that number is expected to at least double by the millennium. As Internet use in our schools and libraries continues to grow, children's potential exposure to harmful online content will only increase. This bill simply assures that universal service subsidies will be used to defend them from the very dangers that these same subsidies are otherwise going to increase. This is a rational response to what could otherwise be a terrible and unintended problem.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill appear in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1619

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. NO UNIVERSAL SERVICE FOR SCHOOLS OR LIBRARIES THAT FAIL TO IMPLEMENT A FILTERING OR BLOCKING SYSTEM FOR COMPUTERS WITH INTERNET ACCESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

"(I) IMPLEMENTATION OF A FILTERING OR BLOCKING SYSTEM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—No services may be provided under subsection (h)(1)(B) to any elementary or secondary school, or any library, unless it provides the certification required by paragraph (2) or (3), respectively.

"(2) CERTIFICATION FOR SCHOOLS.—Before receiving universal service assistance under subsection (h)(1)(B), an elementary or secondary school (or the school board or other authority with responsibility for administration of that school) shall certify to the Commission that it has—

"(A) selected a system for computers with Internet access to filter or block matter deemed to be inappropriate for minors; and

"(B) installed, or will install as soon as it obtains computers with Internet access, a system to filter or block such matter.

"(3) CERTIFICATION FOR LIBRARIES.—Before receiving universal service assistance under subsection (h)(1)(B), a library that has a computer with Internet access shall certify to the Commission that, on one or more of its computers with Internet access, it employs a system to filter or block matter deemed to be inappropriate for minors. If a library that makes a certification under this paragraph changes the system it employs or ceases to employ any such system, it shall notify the Commission within 10 days after implementing the change or ceasing to employ the system."

"(4) LOCAL DETERMINATION OF CONTENT.—For purposes of paragraphs (2) and (3), the determination of what matter is inappropriate for minors shall be made by the school, school board, library or other authority responsible for making the required certification. No agency or instrumentality of the United States Government may—

"(A) establish criteria for making that determination;

"(B) review the determination made by the certifying school, school board, library, or other authority; or

"(C) consider the criteria employed by the certifying school, school board, library, or other authority in the administration of subsection (h)(1)(B)."

(b) CONFORMING CHANGE.—Section 254(h)(1)(B) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254(h)(1)(B)) is amended by striking "All telecommunications" and inserting "Except as provided by subsection (I), all telecommunications".

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 61

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 61, a bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to extend eligibility for veterans' burial benefits, funeral benefits, and related benefits for veterans of certain service in the United States merchant marine during World War II.

S. 71

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX) was added as a cosponsor of S. 71, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 and the Civil

Rights Act of 1964 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

S. 887

At the request of Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) were added as cosponsors of S. 887, a bill to establish in the National Service the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program, and for other purposes.

S. 980

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 980, a bill to require the Secretary of the Army to close the United States Army School of the Americas.

S. 1045

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1045, a bill to prohibit discrimination in employment on the basis of genetic information, and for other purposes.

S. 1151

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1151, a bill to amend subpart 8 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to support the participation of low-income parents in postsecondary education through the provision of campus-based child care.

S. 1283

At the request of Mr. BUMPERS, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1283, a bill to award Congressional gold medals to Jean Brown Trickey, Carlotta Walls LaNier, Melba Patillo Beals, Terrence Roberts, Gloria Ray Karlmark, Thelma Mothershed Wair, Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, and Jefferson Thomas, commonly referred collectively as the "Little Rock Nine" on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the integration of the Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.

S. 1334

At the request of Mr. BOND, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1334, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to establish a demonstration project to evaluate the feasibility of using the Federal Employees Health Benefits program to ensure the availability of adequate health care for Medicare-eligible beneficiaries under the military health care system.

S. 1422

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. BRYAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1422, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to promote competition in the market for delivery of multichannel video programming and for other purposes.

S. 1580

At the request of Mr. SHELBY, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. FORD) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1580, a bill to amend the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 to place an 18-month moratorium on the prohibition of payment under the medicare program for home health services consisting of venipuncture solely for the purpose of obtaining a blood sample, and to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to study potential fraud and abuse under such program with respect to such services.

S. 1582

At the request of Mr. ROBB, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1582, a bill to provide market transition assistance for quota holders, active tobacco producers, and tobacco-growing counties, to authorize a private Tobacco Production Control Corporation and tobacco loan associations to control the production and marketing and ensure the quality of tobacco in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1615

At the request of Mr. CLELAND, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1615, a bill to present a gold medal to Len "Roy Rogers" Slye and Octavia "Dale Evans" Smith.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 55

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 55, A concurrent resolution declaring the annual memorial service sponsored by the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Service Board of Directors to honor emergency medical services personnel to be the "National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Service."

SENATE RESOLUTION 148

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. COVERDELL), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL), the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. THOMPSON), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. NICKLES), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. HUTCHINSON), the Senator from New York (Mr. D'AMATO), the Senator from Washington (Mr. GORTON), the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD), the Senator from Missouri

(Mr. BOND), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. ABRAHAM), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. FAIRCLOTH), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from New York (Mr. MOYNIHAN), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BUMPERS), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. KERREY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. BRYAN), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. ASHCROFT), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI), and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 148, A resolution designating 1998 as the "Onate Cuatrocenenario", the 400th anniversary commemoration of the first permanent Spanish settlement in New Mexico.

SENATE RESOLUTION 170

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 170, A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Federal investment in biomedical research should be increased by \$2,000,000,000 in fiscal year 1999.

SENATE RESOLUTION 171

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 171, A resolution designating March 25, 1998, as "Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy".

SENATE RESOLUTION 173

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. DASCHLE), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 173, A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to the protection of reproductive health services clinics.

SENATE RESOLUTION 174—
RELATIVE TO THAILAND

Mr. ROTH (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. THOMAS, and Mr. LUGAR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 174

Whereas, the United States maintains a close bilateral partnership with Thailand and has a profound interest in furthering that relationship;

Whereas, the friendship between our two countries goes back farther than that with any other Asian nation dating back to the Treaty of Amity and Commerce and Navigation of 1833;

Whereas, the bilateral trade relationship is robust and promises to grow even more so in time;

Whereas, the U.S. security relationship with Thailand is one of our most critical, and it is in both countries' interest to maintain and strengthen that relationship;

Whereas, the new government in Thailand has committed itself to making significant structural reforms to its economy in line with the conditions placed upon it by the International Monetary Fund, including improving financial and economic transparency and cutting its budget;

Whereas, the conditions imposed on Thailand by the IMF were developed in August of 1997 when the economic environment in Asia was vastly different from that existing today;

Whereas, an example of those changed circumstances is the fact that both Korea and Indonesia provided second line of defense contingency loans to Thailand in August, 1997, amounting to US\$500 million each;

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that:

(1) The United States should be prepared to take appropriate steps to help ensure that Thailand's economic recovery efforts will continue uninterrupted and to enhance the close political, economic and security relations between Thailand and the United States; and

(2) Thailand deserves praise and commendation from the United States for the measures it has implemented to resolve its financial problems.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, I rise today on behalf of myself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. THOMAS, and Mr. LUGAR, to submit a Resolution to state the sense of the Senate that Thailand remains one of America's most important partners and closest friends, and that Bangkok has been making important strides in executing its responsibilities under its arrangements with the International Monetary Fund.

Mr. President, America's friendship with Thailand is our longest-standing in Asia. Our first Envoy to Thailand

negotiated a Treaty of Amity and Commerce with that country in 1833.

Thailand was the first country afflicted with the so-called Asian contagion, and the first to receive IMF assistance. However, at the time the IMF put the package together for Thailand in August, 1997, Asia's regional economy looked far different than it does today. Let me give one compelling example of how things have changed: Last year, both Korea and Indonesia were economically secure enough to pledge so-called "second line of defense" contingency loans to Thailand.

The point is, Mr. President, many of the assumptions that the IMF used in formulating the conditions for Thailand's package are no longer applicable.

Despite the changes, however, the new Government of Thailand has been making important progress in fulfilling its IMF obligations. Already Thailand has taken steps to improve financial and economic transparency and cut its budget.

I recently visited Thailand and was very impressed by the new leadership in Bangkok, by the steps they have taken thus far and by their resolve in fulfilling their IMF obligations.

Mr. President, I believe I am safe in saying that all of us in this chamber—and Americans all across this land—are great admirers of Thailand and Thai culture. I remain optimistic about Thailand's future. Given the Thai people's energy and initiative, the country's remarkable history, and its record of economic success, I hope and expect to see Thailand's return to prosperity in the not-too-distant future.

SENATE RESOLUTION 175—TO DESIGNATE "NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES WEEK"

Mr. ROBB submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 175

Whereas the operation of correctional facilities represents a crucial component of our criminal justice system;

Whereas correctional personnel play a vital role in protecting the rights of the public to be safeguarded from criminal activity;

Whereas correctional personnel are responsible for the care, custody and dignity of the human beings charged to their care; and

Whereas correctional personnel work under demanding circumstances and face danger in their daily work lives; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates the week of May 3, 1998 as "National Correctional Officers and Employees Week." The President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a Senate resolution to designate the week of May 2, 1998 as "National Correctional Officers and Employees Week."

Mr. President, this resolution gives needed recognition to the vital role

that correctional personnel play in our communities.

Correctional officers and employees put their lives on the line every day to protect the public from dangerous criminals. These brave men and women also protect incarcerated individuals from the violence of their circumstance, and they help prisoners work toward returning to lawful society.

I urge my colleagues to join with me to recognize the work and contributions of our nation's correctional officers and employees.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a hearing of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources will be held on Tuesday, February 10, 1998, 10:00 a.m., in SD-430 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is Tobacco Settlement IV. For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a hearing of the Subcommittee on Public Health and Safety, Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources will be held on Wednesday, February 11, 1998, 9:30 a.m., in SD-430 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR). For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a hearing of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources will be held on Thursday, February 12, 1998, 10:00 a.m., in SD-430 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is Education of the Deaf Act. For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Small Business will hold a hearing entitled "IRS Reform: What America's Taxpayers Need Now." The hearing will be held on February 12, 1998, beginning at 9:30 a.m. ET in three locations: room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.; St. Louis, Missouri; and Salt Lake City, Utah. Description of hearing: Senate Committee on Small Business meets cyberspace; holds first virtual committee hearing on the Internet on proposals to reform the IRS and improve taxpayer rights. For further information, please contact Mark Warren at 224-5175.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that an