

restriction for our potato farmers. They face unfair competition from Canadian growers; they don't need it from western growers who also raise program crops.

I could continue. The list I have provided you are just the highlights of the reasons I support the Farm Bill. I believe it is a good improvement over the so-called Freedom to Farm. The bill strengthens the safety net for all farmers, it more equitably distributes federal farm dollars and it provides strong incentives to improve stewardship.

Thank you and I look forward to continue working with you on issues of importance to Maine farmers.

Sincerely,

ROBERT W. SPEAR,
Commissioner.

NUCLEAR AND TERRORISM THREAT REDUCTION ACT OF 2002

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce this week, with Senator MARY LANDRIEU, the Nuclear and Terrorism Threat Reduction Act of 2002 NTTRA. The NTTRA addresses one of the most serious security challenges facing the United States today: the possibility that a portion of the Russian nuclear weapons arsenal and other weapons of mass destruction (WMD) will fall into the hands of terrorists or terrorist states.

Over a decade after the end of the cold war, Russian still possesses about 95 percent of the world's nuclear weapons and materials outside of the United States. These weapons and materials are stored in over 400 locations across Russia and many are not fully secure. To understand the need to help the Russians on this front, one fact bears noting: Each year, the Russians spend approximately 2 percent of the amount that we spend to operate and secure our nuclear weapons arsenal.

The members of this body know that addressing this challenge is not a partisan issue. It is an issue of deep concern to all Americans. Early last year, a bipartisan task force led by former Senate majority leader and current U.S. Ambassador to Japan, Howard Baker, and former White House Counsel Lloyd Cutler reached three primary conclusions: First, the most urgent unmet national security threat to the United States today is the danger that weapons of mass destruction or weapons-usable material in Russia can be stolen and sold to terrorists or hostile nation States and used against American troops abroad or citizens at home; second, current nonproliferation programs in the Department of Defense, Department of Energy, and related agencies have achieved impressive results thus far, but their limited mandate and funding fall short of what is required to address adequately the threat; and third, the President and the leaders of the 107th Congress face the urgent national security challenge of devising an enhanced response proportionate to the threat.

It bears repeating that these conclusions were reached months in advance of the September 11 attacks. This legislation will address each of the Baker-Cutler Task Force conclusions.

The Bush administration has devoted considerable time and effort to increase cooperation between the United States and Russia on these matters, as exemplified by U.S.-Russia cooperation in the war against terrorism, the Bush-Putin summit in November 2001, and the May 2002 U.S.-Russia summit in Russia. Also, late last year, the administration completed a thorough review of U.S. efforts to help Russia secure its nuclear and other WMD arsenal. The review concluded that, "most U.S. programs to assist Russia in threat reduction and nonproliferation work well, are focused on priority tasks, and are well managed." At the time, the White House also noted: "The President has made clear repeatedly that his administration is committed to strong, effective cooperation with Russia and the other states of the Former Soviet Union to reduce weapons of mass destruction and prevent their proliferation." The President wisely realizes that only through greater cooperation with Russia can we deal effectively with this problem. The NTTRA supports the President's desire to strengthen U.S.-Russia cooperative efforts.

Senator LANDRIEU and I are carrying on the tradition of Senators like Sam Nunn and RICHARD LUGAR, who along with other of our colleagues were responsible for the U.S. effort to help the Russians secure, account for, and, where possible, dispose of their nuclear weapons and other WMD. The United States must make every effort to defeat global terrorism. One of the most important actions we can take is to deny terrorists the means to kill tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands, of people.

The NTTRA will address this serious national security challenge in the following ways:

First, the NTTRA states that it is the policy of the United States to work cooperatively with the Russian Federation in order to prevent the diversion of weapons of mass destruction and material, including nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, as well as scientific and technical expertise necessary to design and build weapons of mass destruction. As I noted earlier, the administration's recent review of U.S.-Russia programs concluded: "most U.S. programs to assist Russia in threat reduction and nonproliferation work well, are focused on priority tasks, and are well managed." The NTTRA proposals complement the increases and proposed organizational changes that the Bush administration has proposed for these programs.

The NTTRA also calls for the President to deliver to Congress, no later than 6 months after the enactment of the NTTRA, a series of recommendations on how to enhance the implementation of U.S.-Russia non-proliferation and threat reduction programs, including suggestions on how to improve and streamline the contracting and procurement practices of these programs

and a list of impediments to the efficient and effective implementation of these programs.

Second, this bill addresses the shortcomings in the Russian system in accounting for nuclear warheads and weapons-grade material: The NTTRA states that it is the policy of the United States to establish with Russia comprehensive inventories and data exchanges of Russian and U.S. weapons-grade material and assembled warheads with particular attention to tactical, or "non-strategic," warheads—one of the most likely weapons a terrorist organization or state would attempt to acquire—and weapons which have been removed from deployment. Only through such an accounting system will we be able to reliably say that Russian warheads and materials are sufficiently secure.

Third, the NTTRA calls for the establishment of a joint U.S.-Russia Commission on the Transition from Mutually Assured Destruction to Mutually Assured Security. The U.S. side of the Commission would be composed of private citizens who are experts in the field of U.S.-Russia strategic stability. The NTTRA also calls upon the President to make every effort to encourage the Russian Government to establish a complementary Commission that would jointly meet and discuss how to preserve strategic stability during this time of rapid and positive change in the U.S.-Russia relationship.

The United States and Russia have made great strides to reshape our countries' relationship since the end of the cold war. I am encouraged by the work of President Bush and President Putin regarding the reduction of U.S. and Russian nuclear arsenals and I have been pleased to see Russia's understanding and support of our war on terrorism. I hope that this bill will support our countries' working relationship by encouraging further movement towards arms reductions and helping build trust and expand dialogue and cooperation between our nations. This relationship is critical to protecting both Russia and the United States from nuclear terrorism.

I call upon the members of this body to join Senator LANDRIEU and me as we work against nuclear terrorism by supporting the Nuclear and Terrorism Threat Reduction Act of 2002.

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 last 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 May 1996 in Lake Charles, LA. A gay man was robbed and beaten to death after being

abducted from a rest stop. The attackers, four men, said that they had gone to the rest area to "roll a queer."

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 and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

DEATH OF NORMAN JOHNSON

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, one of the finest attorneys in the country, Norman Johnson, one of the great attorneys and leaders from my home state of Utah, died last Saturday.

The loss of Norm is a personal loss to me. He has been one of my best friends. Norm was not only a fine lawyer, a fine businessman, a fine husband and father, a fine Christian, and a wonderful friend.

Norm was a partner in one of Utah's most prestigious law firms. He was one of the most informed authorities in the field of securities law and nationally recognized both before and after appointment as one of the five commissioners on the United States Security and Exchange Commission. As S.E.C. Commissioner, Norm held one of the most prestigious and high-level positions in the Federal Government. Norm served well and was highly respected. I know. I watched his service and was so proud of him.

Norm loved his wife Carol and his children, all of whom are beautiful and exemplary in their own lives. I'm sure they are very grieved at his death. He was so proud of them.

Norm was one of the most soft-spoken people I ever knew. He was kind, generous to a fault, and a friend to all.

We lived in the same neighborhood in Salt Lake City, when I was Bishop of the Salt Lake Mt. Olympus 10th Ward. We became instant friends and our friendship has endured over thirty years.

Norm courageously battled esophageal cancer for a lengthy time. I remember visiting him in the hospital many times. He beat one of the worst of all cancers and then went on to his exceptional government service. I never heard him complain and he bore his difficulties with grace and humor, but the suffering took its toll.

I loved Norm as a brother and have always and will always be a friend of his family.

His funeral is today and I deeply regret that, because of pressing Senate business and an important meeting with the President of the United States at the White House, I have not been able to attend. My beloved wife, Elaine, will be in attendance. She left for Utah this morning. As usual, Elaine will represent me well.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLESHIP MASSACHUSETTS

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I rise today to join the people of *Massachusetts* and Navy veterans across the country in celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Battleship *Massachusetts*' commission. This historic ship, the heaviest craft ever launched from Quincy's Fore River Shipyard, served with distinction in theaters ranging from North Africa to the Marshall Islands, and I join its crew in celebrating the anniversary of this storied vessel.

The Battleship *Massachusetts* entered combat on November 8, 1942 in Operation Torch on the shores of North Africa and saw its first action on the shores off Casablanca, Morocco. In that first engagement, the 16" shells from the *Massachusetts* helped sink two destroyers, two merchant ships, visit heavy damage to buildings along the coast, and render a dry dock inoperable. One year later the ship came back to Boston for refitting before heading off to a new assignment in the Pacific, where she would remain for the duration of the war. During its Pacific service, the *Massachusetts* engaged the enemy in the New Guinea-Solomons in the southwest, raided Japanese bases in the west, and helped invade the Marshall Islands.

As the war built to a bloody crescendo the *Massachusetts* proved itself repeatedly. Carrying its nickname of "Big Mamie," the *Massachusetts* took center stage in the preliminary actions against Okinawa and Iwo Jima, shelling each island in preparation for the decisive land combat that began the final chapters of the long struggle. Together with the Third Fleet, the *Massachusetts* approached Japan in the summer of 1945. Its engagements at Kamaishi and Hamamatsu helped cripple the country's infrastructure and expedite the war's conclusion.

After de-activation in 1946, the battleship remained in the Reserve Fleet until being struck from the Navy record in 1962. Despite being ordered to be sold for scrap, her wartime crew lobbied to save the ship as a memorial. Schoolchildren around *Massachusetts* rallied for the ship named for their state, and "Big Mamie," was brought to Fall River in 1965 as a result of these tireless civic efforts. It now serves as the central attraction in Fall River's thriving waterfront; standing as a reminder of its service and inspiring young people to find their own ways to serve.

Through it all, the ship beared the name of our Commonwealth with a pride that we match today, and I am honored to join the Navy, the citizens of Fall River, and people across our State in celebrating the 60th anniversary of the *Massachusetts*' receiving its commission. •

HONORING DR. GEORGE RUPP, PRESIDENT OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

• Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Dr. George Rupp, a man who has served higher education and the city of New York well over his 9 years as President of Columbia University.

As a proud alumnus of Columbia University, I wanted to share with Members of Congress some of the accomplishments of this fine leader, and to take this opportunity to salute Dr. Rupp. Columbia is one of the nation's most prestigious universities, and under Dr. Rupp's leadership it has only grown more so. In every area of the university's existence, from academic to administrative, fundraising and quality of life, Dr. Rupp has made a major impact. The legacy he has created sets a new standard in university administration.

When he joined the administration in 1993, Dr. Rupp promised to put undergraduate education at the center of the institution. He committed his energies and the university's resources to doing precisely that, and Columbia College is in a much stronger position as a consequence of his efforts. High school students are applying to Columbia in record numbers and undergraduate admissions have more than doubled since 1993.

Dr. Rupp introduced fellowships to attract professors to teach its celebrated core curriculum for undergraduates, anchored by contemporary civilization and humanities literature. Columbia's graduate programs in law, business, medicine, journalism, and the liberal arts have grown more competitive and are among the best in the world. Over the past nine years, four Columbia faculty members have been Nobel prize winners.

Columbia has raised its profile in New York City and significantly improved relations with the surrounding communities of Morningside Heights, Harlem, and Washington Heights. Dr. Rupp has striven to make Columbia a good neighbor and involves community leadership in major construction projects. He also established a housing assistance program to encourage Columbia staff to purchase homes in these neighborhoods, which are part of the Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone.

Under Dr. Rupp's leadership, the university has added an architecturally distinguished student center, expanded student housing and built world-class research facilities. Columbia has also taken over the management of the Biosphere 2 Center in Oracle, AZ to expand the science of its Earth Institute. In addition, he has established the International Research Institute for Climate Prediction, a facility to direct advances in climate sciences to the benefit of societies around the world.

Dr. Rupp, an ordained Presbyterian minister and a religious scholar, became Dean of Harvard Divinity School