

As a former Governor, I am also well aware of the difficult decisions facing our prison administrators day in and day out as they strive to maintain the security of their facilities, for both staff and inmates.

Also as a member of the Nevada State Prisons Board during my tenures as Governor and attorney general, I experienced first hand the burdens placed on State governments as a result of Federal court actions. This burden continues to impact State governments' monetarily and administratively through increased costs, time, and effort expended to comply with required legal holdings.

The National Governors' Association during its annual meeting this past weekend addressed the impact the Religious Freedom Restoration Act has had on State prison inmate claims. By voice vote, the NGA accepted a policy position resolution that provides:

The Governors strongly support First Amendment rights that protect an individual's freedom to worship. Governors also recognize the importance of balancing the interests of prison administrators responsible for running safe and secure facilities with the legitimate claim of prisoners to exercise their right to worship and practice according to their individual religious faiths. Recently enacted federal legislation disrupts this delicate balance and threatens the ability of prison officials to effectively manage state and local correctional institutions.

Under current Federal law, prison regulations governing religious practices are subjected to strict legal scrutiny. This effectively interferes with prison management on a day-to-day basis. For example, correctional institutions can be prohibited from regulating certain types of garments claimed to be religious clothing, which may conceal weapons, narcotics, and other contraband.

In addition to the concerns for safety within our prison facilities, extensive litigation and an explosion of frivolous petitions by prisoners demanding accommodations for specific religious activities has a detrimental impact on the costs of operating correctional institutions. Additional guards, new physical structures, legal expenses, and other additional costs are being incurred at a time when states can least afford expenditures of this nature.

The Governors strongly believe that prison officials require necessary flexibility to enact regulations that allow religious worship, but that also preserve institutional order and safety. For these reasons, the Governors believe Congress should enact legislation without delay that would:

Exclude prison and jail inmates or any person held or incarcerated as a pretrial detainee from provisions of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act; and

Eliminate any liability that may have accrued to State and local governments as a result of the misapplication of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act to individuals who are incarcerated in a State or local correctional detention, or penal facility.

I ask my colleagues to join with the Governors across this country in supporting this bill to ensure our prisons and their administrators are allowed to exercise their judgment to maintain the security and of their facilities, and to have that judgment given due deference by our court system.●

A TRIBUTE TO RED BARTLETT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Red Bartlett, a resident of Newport, KY, a man who has dedicated 50 years of his life to the people in his community, especially the children. Mr. Bartlett is marking his 50th year of service to knothole baseball in Campbell County. In addition to this commitment, Red has carried the children of Campbell County through many other programs.

It seems strange to refer to him as Mr. Bartlett. For thousands of northern Kentuckians know him—friend and stranger alike—simply as Red.

Red served as knothole supervisor for all of Campbell County beginning in 1949. Currently supervisor of knothole District 22, he will work with his replacement right up to the end of next year. Although he will soon retire, his memory will live on in the hearts of the countless number of children to whom he was coach, role model, and friend.

Red grew up in an orphanage and has spent his life enriching his community by providing a fun, safe, and accessible recreational outlet for children. He was honored by the Northern Kentucky Sports Hall of Fame and recently by the Greater Cincinnati Knothole Hall of Fame for his extensive commitment to athletic supervision. He has worked as the Newport city recreation director and as the Newport Central Catholic High School tennis coach.

Red organized Youth, Inc. Boys Club. That organization ran the junior olympics program in northern Kentucky, a youth basketball league, and was instrumental in establishing the Pee-Wee football league in Campbell County.

Mr. President, a little more than 4 years ago, Red reorganized the all-stars games to recognize knothole players of northern Kentucky. The proceeds benefit the family nurturing center child abuse prevention programs and local food pantries. He organized the games and made sure each young star received an engraved trophy.

Red believed each child should have a chance to build character and confidence on the athletic field. He provided a channel, gave positive recognition, and taught self-esteem.

Mr. President, I would like to close now with a thought expressed in a recent editorial by the Kentucky Post. The Post wrote, "No one hands out hero's medals to men who serve 50 years in knothole. Maybe they should. Red Bartlett just may have done more for youth sports and for the young people of Campbell County over the last half-century than anyone."

To sum it up, Red gave children a chance to learn some of life's most lasting lessons through athletics. His commitment to his community made Red the real star.

RELEASE OF NEW OTA REPORT ON COMPUTER SECURITY

● Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, in the new hit movie, *The Net*, private information is hacked into via the Internet, turning a young woman's life upside-down. While *The Net* is a work of fiction, it is based on a factual premise: that information held in computer networks is susceptible to intrusion.

Unknown crackers routinely scan government and private sector databases for military research, confidential personal information and other sensitive data. This jeopardizes our Nation's security and our individual privacy. A report issued today by the Office of Technology Assessment clearly states the problems facing the Federal Government in ensuring the integrity and usefulness of America's information infrastructure. Its title is *Issue Update on Information Security and Privacy in Network Environments*.

Securing public and private databases from the mischievous and criminal elements of the computer community is not a simple task. The sheer number of break-ins and the electronic nature of this crime makes prosecution, and often even detection, almost impossible. It is neither affordable nor effective to prosecute each cracker. Defending the data and computer systems from infiltration has emerged as the most cost-effective and smartest way to deal with this problem.

The most recent issue of *Defense News* underscores the need for secure databases, as opposed to stronger enforcement. In it, Paul Strassmann, a distinguished visiting professor for information warfare at the National Defense University is quoted as saying: "new laws are not likely to stop on-line criminals because the professionals are undetectable." Against this kind of threat, prevention in the form of securing the data is more effective than prosecution.

Fortunately, we have already laid the groundwork to meet the challenge of securing sensitive Federal data. The Computer Security Act of 1987 established an approach for protecting the Federal Government's unclassified but sensitive data, and developed guidelines and standards to promote Federal data protection. However, the Computer Security Act needs to be updated and enforced for it to prevent thousands of computer break-ins currently occurring annually.

The costs of not facing these challenges are enormous. As Chairman of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, my primary goal is the restructuring of the Federal Government to be smaller, more effective and less expensive. Accomplishing this goal depends on automation, and will require enhanced protection of computer databases and networked information. OTA's report highlights why the Governmental Affairs Committee must update the Computer Security Act for today's networked society.●