

THE MARCH . . . COMING
TOGETHER TO CONQUER CANCER

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask that the following joint statement of myself and my colleague from Michigan, Senator SPENCER ABRAHAM, be printed in the RECORD.

The joint statement follows:

JOINT STATEMENT OF SENATOR LEVIN AND
SENATOR ABRAHAM IN RECOGNITION OF THE
MARCH . . . COMING TOGETHER TO CONQUER
CANCER

Mr. President, we are pleased to join today in recognition of the hundreds of thousands of people gathering here in Washington and in every state in the country on Saturday, September 26, 1998 for The March . . . Coming Together to Conquer Cancer.

Statistics tell us that cancer will affect the lives of virtually every American. According to the American Cancer Society, American men have a 1-in-2 lifetime risk of developing cancer, and American women have a 1-in-3 lifetime risk. It is estimated that more than 1.2 million new cancer cases will be diagnosed this year, and cancer kills Americans at a rate of more than 1,500 per day. In our state of Michigan, cancer is the second leading cause of death for all people, and is the leading cause of death for people between the ages of 35 and 49. In 1995, cancer took the lives of nearly 20,000 Michigan residents. What statistics cannot show us are the real people behind the numbers whose lives have been forever changed by cancer. They are parents and children, husbands and wives, sisters and brothers, friends and colleagues. They are counting on us, and on policymakers at all levels, to renew our commitment to the effort to develop a cure for this deadly disease.

We are proud that our home state of Michigan is a national leader of The March and in cancer research and treatment. The Karmanos Cancer Institute, one of the premier cancer treatment facilities in the country, is coordinating Michigan's March-related activities. The Michigan March will be held in Lansing to coincide with The March in Washington on September 26th. A steering committee, coordinated by the Karmanos Cancer Institute, is working hard to ensure that people from every corner of Michigan participate in The March in Lansing. Organizers are expecting 10,000 people in Lansing on September 26th, including cancer survivors, friends and family of survivors and of those who have lost their lives to cancer, health care professionals, government leaders, and many others. We know that even though they will be divided by geography, the 10,000 people in Lansing will feel a sense of unity with the hundreds of thousands of others gathering in cities throughout the country for a common purpose.

Mr. President, we have all been touched by cancer in one way or another. We all have friends, family, or loved ones who have been its victims. The March will give a voice to those whose voices have been silenced by cancer, and it will serve as a call to action in the war against this deadly disease. We are pleased to stand with those participating in The March in Lansing and in Washington, and encourage our colleagues to join us in expressing our profound respect and gratitude to The March participants for their courageous action.●

CELEBRATING 7 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE FOR THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

• Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I rise today to express my support to the

Government of the Republic of Macedonia which on September 8th celebrated seven years of independence.

Many of us are encouraged by the activities the Government has enacted with respect to democracy, human rights and international peace.

Although a small nation of approximately two million people and the size of Vermont, the Republic of Macedonia, located in the very unstable region of the Balkans, has established itself as an example of peaceful, constructive, good neighborly country and our reliable ally.

The Republic of Macedonia is the only country that, following the dissolution of former Yugoslavia in 1991, gained independence in a peaceful and legitimate manner, by a way of a referendum and a new Constitution, refusing to take part in the war that was waged in the other parts of former Yugoslavia, thus showing that at the threshold of the 21st century, it is possible to become independent without bloodshed.

Not only did the Republic of Macedonia opt against policies of territorial aspirations, forceful changing of borders and ethnic cleansing, but also made it very clear that such policies are the cause for conflicts and wars in the ethnically intermixed Balkans.

Over the seven years of its independence, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia has instituted a series of economic reforms to control inflation, reduce debt, increase exports and foster growth.

Recently, many American investors have started to see South-Eastern Europe as an economic area of large potential with more than 60 million people, and the Republic of Macedonia as the most strategically located in the center of this large market.

The United States must continue its support for the Republic of Macedonia, especially having in mind the recent developments in neighboring Yugoslavia.●

RECOGNITION OF THE U.S. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of the efforts recently made by the U.S. National Commission on Libraries to mobilize resources for the purpose of curbing youth violence in this nation.

Youth violence in America is, undeniably, a serious and frightening problem today. The recent string of highly publicized school shootings has made this all too clear; over the last ten months, 15 people have died and 42 have been wounded. This terrifying epidemic has spread across the country—from Mississippi to Pennsylvania to Washington. As a result, cities such as Jonesboro, Arkansas, and Springfield, Oregon, will remain burned in the public mind, forever associated with terror, heartbreak, and inexplicable tragedy. When faced with the all too horri-

fying reality of children killing children, teachers, even parents, the nation is shaken to its core, as common associations of youth and innocence are violently broken. Citizens are left to mourn and to ask the inevitable question: Why?

But wondering why is not enough. Innovative action is required if future tragedies are to be prevented. And the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science is leading the way, having committed itself to just such action. The Commission is a permanent, independent agency of the federal government charged by Congress to advise the President and the Congress on national and international library and information policies and plans. On July 8, 1998, the members of the Commission unanimously approved a resolution that urges all of society—community officials, educators, parents, role models—to support efforts made by libraries to assist adults, youth, and children in finding, through valuable learning resources and experiences, solutions to this outbreak of violence. The Commission's recognition of the important and constructive role libraries can play in the lives of America's children is commendable. It is commitment like this that may help to curb the terrifying tide of violence—both in the school and in the home.

Mr. President, I ask that the Resolution of the Commission be printed in the RECORD and serve as a model to all of us and our community organizations as we struggle to come to terms with violence among our youth.

The Resolution follows:

U.S. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

Resolution in Recognition of the Important Role of Libraries in the Lives of American Children

WHEREAS we have seen the recent outbreak of children venting rage and anger by killing parents, teachers and schoolmates,

WHEREAS we know that mental development, positive socialization and emotional stabilization must begin at birth if children are to grow up with full success,

WHEREAS we are concerned about the needs of tens of thousands of young persons now in corrections or on probation who may return to destructive behaviors if they receive no redirection,

Be it Resolved That the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science urges that our society—officials and educators at all levels, community leaders, parents and other adult caregivers, confidantes and role models—utilize the vast potential of libraries and support the current and potential abilities and efforts of librarians in assisting adults, youth and children to seek positive outcomes through wise use of information, and

Be it Further Resolved: That, in seeking solutions through better parenting and learning experiences for young children and redirection for troubled older children and adolescents, libraries can be a major delivery point.●

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. As the Senate considers appropriations for the National

Endowment for Arts and the Humanities Act, the primary source of federal support for the arts, humanities and museums, I wish to express my support for these programs.

ARTS AS PART OF OUR HISTORY

Mr. President, throughout this nation's history, the arts have been an integral part of our background and heritage. Over the years, music, dance, art, and personal expression have evolved to reflect our changing culture and attitudes. In a country of great diversity, from education and socioeconomic background to political perspective and religious views, all people should have the opportunity to experience America in its many forms, including the arts.

NEA IS A SUCCESS

In 1966, when Congress created the National Endowment of the Arts, the mission was to expose all people, across the nation, from California to Maine, from New York to North Dakota, of all backgrounds and origins, to music, dancing, theater, art and literature. Since then, the NEA has more than succeeded with its mission. The NEA helps support community festivals, rural chamber music, arts centers, galleries, arts libraries, town halls, children's organizations, and other social and civic institutions where families can experience the arts. NEA-sponsored programs build bridges of understanding among diverse groups of Americans.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

The arts also stimulate local economies. By attracting tourist dollars, the arts stimulate business development, encourage urban renewal, attract new businesses, and improve the overall quality of life for our cities and towns. Nationally, nonprofit arts organizations generate an estimated \$37 billion in economic activity and return \$3.4 billion in federal income taxes to the U.S. Treasury each year. In other words, for every \$ 1.00 dollar spent by the NEA, \$34.00 are returned to the United States. Every \$1.00 spent by the NEA attracts \$12.00 to the arts from other sources.

INCREASED JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The arts also create job opportunities for more Americans. More than 1.7 million Americans are employed in the non-profit arts industry. This number is higher than any other profession including legal services, police and firefighting, mining, advertising, and forestry and logging. Since 1970 the number of artists employed in the U.S. has more than doubled. Even with this increase, the United States still spends nearly fifty times less on the arts than any of its major allies.

CREATES STATE AND FEDERAL PARTNERSHIPS

To ensure that people across the country have access to arts programs, the NEA promotes partnerships between the state and arts agencies, schools and local organizations. This cooperative system of arts support links local, state and regional associa-

tions in order to ensure that support and assistance is provided to organizations that work with culturally diverse populations, older adults, people with disabilities, and individuals living in institutions. Before the NEA, only 5 states had state-funded arts councils. Today, all 50 states do. Currently, the NEA sustains 25 partnerships with federal agencies including the Departments of Education and Justice, the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, and the National Science Foundation.

EDUCATION BENEFITS

The arts can improve learning and be part of a well-rounded education. Research from 1995-97 from the College Entrance Examination Board shows that students who studied the arts scored an average of 83 points higher than non-arts students on the Scholastic Aptitude Test, the SAT. Children with a piano background have also scored better on math tests.

The NEA and the state arts agencies provide \$30 million in annual support for more than 7,800 arts education projects in more than 2,400 communities. In 1997, the NEA invested \$8.2 million, 10 percent of its annual grant dollars, in kindergarten through grade 12 arts programs. Arts education improves life skills including self-esteem, teamwork, motivation, discipline, and problem solving that help young people compete in a challenging and high-tech workforce.

NEA AFFECTS CALIFORNIA AND STATES NATIONWIDE

Cutting funding means cutting programs. NEA has supported many California efforts: programs such as the I Do Dance Not Drugs program in South Central Los Angeles that works with latch-key kids would be demolished; a grant to the Pacific Symphony Association in Santa Ana, California funds Class Act, 95 a program which supports and enhances music education for up to 17,000 students at 20 elementary schools in Orange County through a series of activities, including repeated interaction with an Orchestra musician and direct exposure and interactive experiences with the Orchestra and the music it performs, would not be possible without NEA funding; to support a comprehensive education program at Berkeley public elementary schools, the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra will help train teachers in music, encouraging student interaction with the composer, an introductory orchestral concert, classroom visits, and a culminating presentation at which students perform side by side with Berkeley Symphony Orchestra professional musicians; the California Arts Council supports arts education and the partnership project with the California Assembly of Local Art Agencies to strengthen the State's local art agencies; programs which support Native American artists in Eureka, California to put on workshops for students and citizens on art could be terminated.

PUBLIC SUPPORTS NEA

By a margin of 3 to 1, Americans support government-funded arts programs. Moreover, a 1996 Lou Harris poll states that 61 percent of Americans said they would be willing to pay \$5.00 more in taxes to fund the arts. This is important because private donations tend to support larger arts organizations, not smaller, independent projects and groups. The NEA works hard to fund a wide range of expression.

NEA REFORMS

With reforms now requiring grantees to adhere to strict guidelines, trying to address the concerns of some who worry that some projects are objectionable can rest assured. National panels of private citizens select grantees in a rigorous, democratic review process.

In conclusion, Mr. President, I would like to remind my colleagues that the total for arts and humanities-related spending for the 1997 fiscal year was less than 1% of the total budget. The National Endowment for the Arts costs each American about 36 cents per year. Arts institutions have affected millions of Americans. Whether its been watching a famous play, wandering through a beautiful museum, or having the opportunity to live a dream by singing on stage in a local theater company, the NEA fosters an excellence, diversity, and vitality of the arts in the United States which could never be matched by any other institution. It represents a national commitment to excellence our nation's culture, heritage, and, most important, its people. The NEA benefits our citizens, educational institutions, economy, and our spirits. We cannot, in good faith, deny Americans access to such a national treasure. ●

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. ROSE HIGH SCHOOL

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize St. Rose High School as it celebrates its 75th Anniversary. This year marks the 75th year the high school will provide quality education to students in and around the Belmar area. It is a pleasure for me to recognize this important milestone.

St. Rose exists to educate high school age men and women so that they may realize their spiritual, academic, and social potential. St. Rose's mission, since beginning as a parish school in 1923, emanates from a tradition of Roman Catholic education administered by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Chestnut Hill. The staff of religious and lay faculty is responsive to the needs of a changing world. They have created a safe, supportive, disciplined atmosphere and curriculum that honors and nurtures the dignity, worth and capabilities of each student. The alumni go on to assume positions of leadership within their communities and professional fields.

This school has become an extraordinary educational institution that has improved the quality of life for the citizens of New Jersey, and it has long