delivered through the SBA's disaster loans, which are administered through only four regional offices. From talking to small businesses and SBA lenders, Senator BOND and I have concluded that small businesses would be better served through a combination of disaster loans and government guaranteed loans. Government guaranteed loans are almost five times cheaper than what the Administration has proposed, have less risk for the taxpayer, and can reach more small business owners because they are delivered through more than 5,000 private sector lenders who know their communities and have experience making SBA guaranteed loans. Our proposal combines public and private sector approaches to ensure small businesses nationwide receive the maximum amount of assistance.

The economy was fizzling before September 11th, and small businesses were already feeling the pain. To stay financially healthy, they were doing their part by cutting back on spending, investing and hiring, and the Federal Reserve was cutting interest rates in an attempt to keep inflation in check. After September 11th, small business owners across this country put on black arm bands. The plug was pulled on their business. It didn't matter what state they were in; they weren't immune to the ripple effect of grounded transportation, closed financial markets, a volatile economy, and lay-offs announced by the tens of thousands. Let's start this session off right by passing S. 1499. Let's demonstrate that we understand the significance of small businesses to the American economy and that we will help them like we have helped other industries.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Madam President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of this year. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement 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 November 21, 1995 in West Hollywood, CA. A male transvestite was beaten by several men yelling anti-gay epithets. The assailants, Agaron Guylbkyan, 21, Harutun Pagaryan, 18, and Vahagn Arutyunyan, 19, were charged with civil rights violations in connection with the incident.

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, we can change hearts and minds as well.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS BILL

Mr. KYL. Madam President. I rise today to give my qualified support to the Defense Appropriations bill. I voted for this bill because the men and women who are, at this very moment, defending our honor and protecting our freedoms from the most horrific assault ever perpetrated against this Nation need critical items funded in the bill. I qualify that support because there are numerous programs and pork projects that will not support the critical needs of our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines.

Even worse, there are projects that I believe are necessary to our national defense which have been severely under-cut to meet the top line numbers while these less than mandatory projects have been added and given millions, if not billions, of dollars. I agree with my colleague from Arizona that, once again, the Appropriations Committee has run roughshod over the legislative process, circumventing the authorization process and the will of the Senate at the last minute of the last day of the session.

Obviously, we must fund our current military campaign and our other defense needs; so I will support this bill to provide necessary funding. I only hope we will be able to make more efficient and effective use of taxpayer dollars for our national security needs in the future.

PRINTING OF S.J. RES. 30

Mr. SPECTER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of S.J. Res. 30, a joint resolution I introduced on December 20, 2001, be printed in today's RECORD. I further ask consent that in the permanent edition of the RECORD, the text of the resolution instead appear following the statement I issued on December 20, 2001.

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

S. J. RES. 30

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within 7 years after the date of its submission by the Congress:

''ARTICLE—

''SECTION 1. If at any time 50 percent or more of the Members of the House of Representatives are unable to carry out their duties because of death or incapacity, each Governor of a State represented by a Member who has died or become incapacitated shall appoint a qualified individual to take the place of the Member as soon as practicable, but no later than 7 days, after the Member's death or incapacity has been certified.

An individual appointed to take the place of a Member of the House of Representatives under this section shall be a member of the same political party as the Member of the House of Representatives who is being replaced.

''SECTION 2. An individual appointed to take the place of a Member of the House of Representatives under section 1 shall serve until an individual is elected to fill the vacancy resulting from the former Member's death or incapacity.

A Member shall be elected to fill the vacancy in a special election to be held at any time during the 90-day period which begins on the date the individual is appointed under section 1, in accordance with the applicable election laws of the State involved. However, if a regularly scheduled general election for the office will be held during such 90-day period, or 30 days thereafter, no special election shall be held and the Member elected in such regularly scheduled general election shall fill the vacancy upon election.

An individual appointed under section 1 may be a candidate in such a special election or in such a regularly scheduled general election.

''SECTION 3. During the period of an individual's appointment under section 1, the individual shall have all the powers and duties of a Member of the House of Representatives.

''SECTION 4. Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.''.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO CHIP NOBLE

• Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, today I recognize the great achievements of Sam ''Chip'' Noble III. Chip is a third generation harness racer, one of the most successful the sport has ever seen. A native resident of Xenia, OH, Chip Noble has raced to 3,293 victories and three North American Driving Championships.

Chip learned how to race through the tutelage of his father, getting his start at the Lebanon Raceway. In a normal year, Chip drives in about 500 to 1,000 races. The percentage crown winner in 1978, 1981, and 1983, Chip has earned over $17.6 million for the owners of the horses he drives.

This past summer, Chip Noble competed in the World Driving Championships as the representative of the United States. He was one of ten drivers world-wide who competed in this prestigious event, which is believed to be the world's oldest international harness racing tournament. Proudly displaying the colors of our country, Chip drove to four heat victories, the most individual victories amassed during the competition, and finished fourth overall.

I congratulate Chip Noble on his tremendous performance in the World Driving Championship and for his wonderful career in harness racing. He is a true ambassador of the sport, and I wish him the best of luck in the future.•

TRIBUTE TO RANDIE BLAUTH AND ADRIENNE THOMAS

• Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Ms. Randie Blauth and Ms. Adrienne Thomas for