

John Collingwood was raised in Findlay, OH, and graduated from Bowling Green University in Ohio in 1970. Mr. Collingwood then worked in the family business and went on to graduate from the University of Toledo Law School in 1975. Upon graduation, he began his career with the FBI as a Special Agent in Detroit, MI.

During the following three decades, John Collingwood served the FBI in many capacities. After attending the Defense Language Institute in California, he became a Special Agent in Portland, OR. His first position at FBI Headquarters was in the Legal Research Unit of the Legal Counsel Division. He then became the Unit Chief of the Civil Litigation Program. In 1992, Mr. Collingwood was named to head the Office of Public and Congressional Affairs and became the Assistant Director in 1997.

During the past three decades, Mr. Collingwood has made countless contributions to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He can take pride in all of his accomplishments during his tenure. Mr. Collingwood is to be commended for working diligently to keep Congress informed about issues related to the FBI. Under his leadership, the Office of Public and Congressional Affairs assumed responsibilities of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act and implemented initiatives to increase the FBI's responsiveness to the public. I would also like to congratulate him for his continuing efforts to help reshape the structure of the FBI as our Nation deals with the tragedies of September 11.

The positive impact Mr. Collingwood has made on the FBI and our great Nation runs deep, and I applaud him for his leadership. During the past three decades, he has worked tirelessly to make positive changes within the agency. It is because of individuals like him, that our Nation is the greatest in the world.

It has been an honor getting to work with such an outstanding leader, and I wish Mr. Collingwood, his wife Mary Ann, and his children, Stephanie and Mark, the best of luck in future endeavors. For three decades, Mr. John E. Collingwood served the Federal Government distinguishing himself as one of the hardest working leaders of our time. His professional and friendly manner will be missed by all those who have had the pleasure to work with Mr. Collingwood, but I am certain that he will continue to set a fine example for others to follow.

POULTRY EXPORTS

Mr. CLELAND. Madam President, I want to express my relief that the long standoff with the Russian Government over American poultry exports has finally been resolved. On March 1, 2002, the Russian Government instituted a ban on American poultry imports and cited safety concerns about U.S. processing procedures. Although the U.S.

Department of Agriculture responded to those concerns point-by-point, the ban continued until August 23.

Russia is the largest market for U.S. chickens, with annual sales of about one million tons valued at \$600 million. This trade dispute had cost Georgia poultry producers, the most productive in the country, approximately \$100 million a year.

After many efforts to resolve this embargo, American poultry producers may resume selling chickens in Russia. I had joined with many of my colleagues on multiple occasions in contacting members of the administration about this unfair trade practice. For example, I cosigned a letter to U.S. Trade Representative Zoellick with 16 other Senators on March 4. Soon after, on March 14, I personally wrote to the President on behalf of Georgia poultry producers. On March 22, I cosigned a letter to the President with nine of my Senate colleagues. On May 9, I personally wrote Trade Representative Zoellick on behalf of Georgia's poultry producers. Again, on May 17, I cosigned a letter to the President with 51 of my Senate colleagues. Finally, on July 2, I cosigned a letter to the President with 30 other Senators about the serious economic damage that the Russian trade block was having on the American economy.

I believe that the continued focus by members of Congress, as well as the diligence of the administration, helped bring about the successful resolution of this ban. At a time of economic uncertainty, the poultry producers of my State will certainly appreciate the re-opening of this important market.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT 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 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 September 2, 2002 in West Hollywood, CA. Two gay men, Treve Broudy, 33, and Edward Lett, 22, were brutally beaten while walking home after dinner. As the victims were walking, a car pulled up beside them. The two assailants, one of whom wielded a bat, jumped out of the car and attacked the victims. Mr. Lett received minor injuries, but Mr. Broudy was critically wounded, having been kicked and punched and struck violently in the back of the head with the baseball bat. No one has been arrested in connection with the incident, which police are investigating as a hate crime.

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 sym-

bol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

STOPPING THE LITIGATION LOTTERY

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, the only level one trauma center in Las Vegas shuts its doors. Twelve orthopedic surgeons at facilities near Philadelphia resign their practice. Two-thirds of doctors in a small Mississippi city consider leaving for Louisiana. What is forcing our medical community to take such drastic measures? The "litigation lottery," trial lawyers filing too many lawsuits with the hope of winning excessive awards.

Medical malpractice litigation, when an injured patient sues a doctor over a medical error, has exploded in the United States. Between 1995 and 2000, the average amount a jury awards a patient rose more than 70 percent to \$3.5 million per claim. And more than half of awards now exceed \$1 million. Trial lawyers, who are fueling this surge by hand-picking patients whom they believe will win large awards, typically take 30 to 40 percent of the proceeds.

Doctors purchase insurance to protect themselves from malpractice lawsuits, but excessive awards have pushed the cost of insurance to unaffordable levels. In 2001, insurance premiums rose 30 percent or more in some States. And for doctors who perform high-risk procedures or practice where trial lawyers have won excessive awards, premiums have risen by as much as 300 percent per year. Many doctors can no longer afford to do the jobs they love.

But even more disturbing to doctors, because we swear a sacred and ancient oath to do no harm, is the impact of excessive awards on patient care. High insurance premiums are forcing doctors to move their practices to other States, adjust how they practice medicine, or quit practicing medicine altogether. Trial lawyers may be winning the litigation lottery, but patients are suffering a health care crisis.

First, excessive malpractice awards hurt access to health care. When a trauma center closes or specialists resign from a hospital or rural doctors can't deliver babies, patients must travel longer distances to get the care they need. They must also select from a smaller pool of physicians. When minutes, and a doctor's experience, can mean the difference between life and death, access to health care matters.

Second, excessive malpractice awards increase the cost of health care. Many doctors are forced to practice defensive medicine. They must order more tests, write more prescriptions, and refer more patients to specialists to protect themselves against lawsuits. A recent Federal report found evidence that reasonable limits on malpractice awards would reduce health care costs by as much as 5 to 9 percent per year.